

SOCCER

● POSTAL ADDRESS: PO Box 406, BROADWAY, NSW 2007.
● TELEPHONE: (02) 660 2033 ● FAX: (02) 692 0649 ● TELEX: AA22141

WEEKLY

Registered by Australian Post — Publication No NBQ5726

The AIS Affair Revealed!

THE REAL STORY

By
Johnny Warren
former Socceroo
captain and ASW
columnist

'Make up
your
mind,
"mate".'



THE man in the middle of the controversy — JOHNNY WARREN.

NOW before the solicited, often anonymous, letter writers take pen to paper, I wish to provide some background facts, with documentary evidence, on the whole Australian Institute of Sport affair.

In particular I wish to highlight the involvement of ASF executive director Brian Emery, who, as you shall see, apparently can't make up his mind as to just whose side he is on in the whole affair.

Many have had their say on the AIS, including Emery in his reports on the AIS to the ASF executive, which I regard as largely misleading.

Now I'll have my say.

The AIS and the ASF are fully entitled to choose whoever they please for the AIS job. In this case the selection of Ron Smith is their business.

I have no quarrel with Smith or the AIS. In view of what I have to say, I hope he does a first class job at the AIS otherwise Soccer will be joining the ranks of the also rans in the near future.

As an independent and private businessman, the AIS job is one I did not, nor in the future, will seek.

Lifetime friends and business associates warned me off it, seeing my future in the current areas I operate.

Emery himself is most aware of this, as it was he who spoke to me first about the AIS job on the eve of Shoulder's departure.

I stated to Emery at this early stage that I was not interested.

More than half a dozen approaches from senior government officials (not Charles Perkins by the way) and including the Australian Sports Commission and the Federal Minister for Sport, Recreation and Tourism,

John Brown, resulted in three separate meetings at Parliament House, Canberra.

The strong and undeniable drift of the Federal Government argument was:

- The Federal Government was on the verge of tossing Soccer from the AIS programme.

- They reported that they were grossly dissatisfied with the Soccer programme for many reasons, among which were the lack of public profile, the absence of the Socceroos from Canberra for training camps, the age groupings of the students, independent research which I was told showed the coaches "working" twelve hours per week, lack of sponsorship for the AIS Soccer, lack of direction for the whole Soccer programme, lack of liaison between the code and the Federal Government and a whole host of accusations against the Soccer programme.

In basic terms the Government wanted me to do the job, "for the code and your country" type argument.

In discussions it was stated by the Government that many of my business activities like media, access to corporate Soccer backers and even Soccer Camps which we intended to run at the AIS itself were all contacts/activities the Federal Government saw as necessary to the position and as such were a plus not a minus to my involvement.

When I initially pointed out that I did not enjoy a healthy relationship with the ASF or Eric Worthington, the Federal Government assured me it was their position and it was they, not the ASF, which decided on the appointment and that they wanted me for the job.

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FOOTSCRAY VIOLENCE

AUSTRALIAN Soccer suffered a serious setback, at Schintler Reserve last Sunday.

A handful of politically motivated hooligans, alien to Footscray JUST and Sydney Croatia, went on a rampage after the game, converting Schintler Reserve, home-ground of Footscray and the adjoining car-parking areas to a battle field.

Six policemen were injured during the brawl and more than twenty arrests were made, during forty five minutes of fierce fighting between the rampaging hooligans and the police.

The ugly beast of hooliganism reared its head early in the game when the larrikins tried to enter the ground illegally by cutting holes in the wire fence.

Police were called to restrain the trespassers while club officials manned various posts around the ground.

By halftime the thrill-seekers were pretty well wrapped up by their leaders. They lined up along the western side of the tunnel leading to the playing field and provoked Footscray supporters standing in front of the canteen, waiting to buy their halftime drinks and snacks.

After the resumption of the game they moved behind Footscray's goal belting goalkeeper Zoran Nikitovic with empty cans, stones and other objects. Police quickly formed a guard behind the goal, thus protecting Nikitovic from the young idiots.

Hell broke loose after fulltime, as the thugs mixed with the spectators leaving the ground and sparked the first fight along the fence of the carparking area as well as outside the ground, often spilling on Footscray Road and the adjacent bridge.

The strong police contingent moved in quickly while reinforcements kept coming from local police stations and the Dog Squad.

According to police the trouble might have been averted had Footscray taken the necessary measures.

Footscray president Tony Amon defended his club, arguing "we did what ever was required from us."

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Ex English 1st Division and South Coast United Page 14
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NSW Director of Coaching Page 14

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The Editor

The name of the game in sport should begin with stability.

That being the case it is high time that some of the people who have the biggest responsibility — those who run the major clubs — belatedly learn the lesson.

Without a secure base it is impossible to put on the demanding exciting show that football followers rightly demand.

Leaving aside the day to day struggle for funds that leaves certain clubs above their heads financially, there are NSL clubs this year who could be considered to be close to reckless in their appointment of their top coaches.

A couple appointed coaches who barely reached the start of the season, and another has an on again off again relationship with their man.

One club in other years had the "honour" of sacking its coach at halftime in the first league game of the season!

No-one, no club, is perfect of course. An occasional mistake can be condoned.

But for a club to employ a new coach and then sack him in next to no time says a deal more about management than about the poor fellow who took the job on.

Only in Soccer is seen the marked tendency to sack the coach at the flip of a coin. It isn't visible in the major clubs of other codes.

And, indeed, it doesn't apply to all Soccer clubs. Some have an admirable record of stability.

Certainly there is often the propensity to play musical chairs but that movement of coaches is acceptable where it allows the men concerned sufficient time to get their acts together.

It may well be that a new type of entrepreneurial management is needed for Soccer to start realising its true potential. The record of many clubs in their coaching appointments directs attention that way.

—oOo—

At the last meeting of the Australian Soccer Federation a motion was carried to commence a review of the code using one of Australia's top firms of management consultants.

Already we have seen Rugby League gain worthwhile benefits from a similar exercise. Modern business world wide has used similar mechanisms to bring their organisational practices to a peak.

Credit must be given in Soccer to those who have put their shoulder to the wheel to build club, state and national bodies.

Especially so where they possess the ability to handle the job properly.

It often happens that, having brought the organisation into line, people are developed with the ability to keep pointing the bow in the right direction.

But without the original fine tuning, the further processes cannot be properly put into place.

Although there is a fair degree of efficiency in many leading organisations in Soccer, in other cases it is conspicuous by its absence.

Any Soccer organisation that feels that it has progressed so far along the track that an external management survey is unnecessary, has missed the point altogether.

The areas of management, media requirements, financing, improved public relations and so on are much more demanding than that.

In Australia the game of cricket was close to departing from this life altogether when Kerry Packer got the right men together to turn it into a huge public attraction.

No Soccer organisation has even reached first base in this regard, with the National Soccer League the one that at least is trying to do something in the modern era.

Look at it. Even the cruel and dangerous sport of professional boxing has been dragged into the limelight with the aid of massive television, print media and radio cover.

Certainly it is time for the ASF and the States to look at the unhappy position of Soccer objectively, and then move ahead with a management survey, just as the top business and industrial corporations do.

Address all correspondence to
THE EDITOR
AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY
P.O. Box 406
BROADWAY NSW 2007
Tel (02) 660 2033

NIGHT OF GLORY WITH EVERTON... IN MELBOURNE

BY KEITH GILMOUR

THE Victorian Soccer Federation has devised a system so that maximum numbers of juniors and school-boys will be able to see Everton in action.

Everton will play Australia in what will be a magnificent spectacle at Olympic Park on Wednesday June 3 at 8.15pm.

This is the club's only appearance in Australia, and the clash is bringing with it a huge wave of excitement.

Normally teams such as Everton are only seen on the television screen — now they can be seen in the flesh.

And at the other end of the park will be Australia's own Socceroos, who are building up towards participation in the Olympic Games qualifying tournament.

Australia leaves in-

KEVIN RATCLIFFE — Wales and Everton.

mediately after the Everton game for Korea, where they will participate in the big President's Cup tournament.

No doubt the Australian team will include player's such as Melbourne's own Jeff Olver amongst others.

Apart from holding the No1 goalkeeping spot, Jeff is Victoria's schools liaison officer, and is responsible for the future of thousands of kiddies in this marvellous game.

There have been some misunderstandings over the arrangements for entry for junior players.

VSF executive director

George Wallace has provided ASW with the following clarification, which entirely clears the air.

- Pensioners and Children U/16 (Outer Only) . . . \$3.00
- Where a Child accompanies a paying adult to any seated area the full price will be paid for the Child.
- Any junior player under the age of 15, that attends the game wearing his club uniform, is in possession of his players identity card, and accompanied by a paying adult, will be admitted FREE to a reserved area of the ground. One Child-One Adult.



JEFF OLVER — Heidelberg, Victoria and Australia.

KEVIN RATCLIFFE (Defender). Kevin made his first League appearance for the Toffees against Manchester United in March 1980 and won a regular place in the senior side the following season. Ironically, it was during the short spells when he was out of the Everton side that he was capped for the Wales under-21s in September 1980. It was only a matter of weeks before he won his first full cap and he has now played for Wales 36 occasions. League record:

International record:

Wales

1980/81 v Czechoslovakia (1-0), Republic of Ireland (3-1), Turkey (1-0), Scotland (2-0), England (0-0), USSR (0-0).
1981/82 v Czechoslovakia (0-2), Iceland (2-2), USSR (3-0), Spain (2-0), England (0-1).
1982/83 v Yugoslavia (4-4), England (1-2), Bulgaria (1-0), Scotland (0-2), Ireland (1-0), Brazil (1-1).
1983/84 v Norway (0-0), Rumania (5-0), Bulgaria (0-1), Yugoslavia (1-1), Scotland (1-2), England (1-0), N. Ireland (1-1), Norway (0-1), Israel (0-0).
1984/85 v Iceland (0-1), Spain (0-3), Iceland (2-1), Norway (1-1), Scotland (1-0), Spain (3-0).
1985/86 v Scotland (1-1), Hungary (0-0), S. Arabia (2-1), Uruguay (0-0).

Wales Under 21

1980/81 v Holland (2-0)
1981/82 v France (0-0)

A LOOK INTO THE FUTURE

BY FRANK SCICLUNA

WHEN the long awaited and highly ambitious National Soccer League came into being way back in 1977, New South Wales was represented by five of its leading clubs. We are now in 1987.

An occasionally dramatic, often traumatic decade has passed.

Those five giants of Sydney Soccer were of course St George, Sydney City, Sydney Olympic, Marconi and Western Suburbs.

Between them, these clubs won six of the ten championships contested but unfortunately, two of them have now gone out of existence.

The team that was often referred to as the Liverpool of Australian Soccer, Sydney City, finally folded a few weeks ago after years of certainty.

Western Suburbs only lasted two seasons before completely withdrawing from professional football.

Of the three remaining original members, Marconi is the only side that has never been out of the league.

Sydney Olympic was relegated in 1979 but bounced back after a one year absence, while St George lost its NSL status in 1980 but also returned after one season in State League.

On a national basis we have seen the likes of Mooroolbark and Newcastle KB United fade into oblivion and the only other clubs apart from Marconi to participate in the NSL without interruption are Adelaide City, South Melbourne, Heidelberg and Footscray.

All this occurred in the short ten year history of the league.

If one looks ahead ten years from now and is brave enough to hazard a guess as to which clubs will be part of a National league in 1997 the odds are that there will be a large number of dramatic changes.

It certainly would not be a major surprise to see Footscray go the same way that Yugal did a few years ago.

While it would be highly unlikely, it's not beyond the realms of possibility that St George could one day follow the same path that Sydney City took this year and withdraw, from professional football.

After all, nobody would have predicted the Slickers' demise ten years ago.

Rumours about Olympic's financial problems may be over exaggerated but have often been raised.

APIA has in the past suffered similar difficulties, while crowd figures at Marconi must be described as disappointing.

Who knows, the frequently talked about possibility of a Marconi-APIA merger may one day become reality.

One club that does appear to be assured of its future is currently playing in the NSW State League but there's little doubt that it is well on the way to becoming one of the leading clubs in the country.

That club is Sydney's Melita Eagles.

When the National League kicked off in 1977, the Eagles were playing in the NSW First Division and won promotion to State League that same year.

Since then they have constructed a stadium that is the envy of most NSL clubs and is one of the best administered outfits in Australian Soccer.

What's more, Melita is well supported by a large number of fans who simply love their football.

Without doubt, the sky's the limit for the high-flying Eagles.

If National League Soccer is to progress further in its second decade than it did in the first, established clubs must learn from past experience.

They must aim for long term viability rather than fleeting short term success, and, above all, accept the fact that the league is only as strong as its weakest member.

AUSTRALIAN
SOCCER
WEEKLY

is published every Tuesday by Foreign Language Publications Pty. Ltd.

EDITOR: Keith Gilmour
ASSISTANT TO THE EDITOR: Frank Coletta
SUB-EDITOR: Ray Gatt

CONTRIBUTORS:
Sydney: John Economos, Mike Johnson, Johnny Warren, Alex Vesic.
Melbourne: Greg Blake, John Mangan, Con Nikolopoulos, Les Shorrocks.
Brisbane: Greg Russell.
Adelaide: Tom McKain.
Tasmania: Walter Pless, John Tscheppera.
Illawarra: Phil Murphy.
Newcastle: Dave Williams.
ACT: Graham Cooke.

ADVERTISING:
John Economos (NSW) (02) 660 2033, (Vic) (03) 329 8944.

*Australian Soccer Weekly is printed and published by Foreign Language Publications Pty Ltd, 1-9 Glebe Point Road, Glebe NSW 2037.

COMPOSITORS:
Frank Coletta, Humberto Pozo and Spiro Kokkenes.

TYPESETTING: Mary Scaff.

POSTAL ADDRESS: P.O. Box 406, Broadway NSW 2007

TELEPHONE: (02) 660 2033 and 660 7538

FAX: 02 692 0649

TELEX: PATRIS AA22141

VICTORIAN OFFICE: 220-228 Stanley Street West Melbourne 3003.

TELEPHONE: (03) 329 8944

SOUTH AUSTRALIA OFFICE: 143 Henley Beach Road, Mile End 5031.

TELEPHONE: (08) 352 2708

*Recommended and maximum price only.

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—Deadline for contributions, articles and advertising is Thursday afternoon of the WEEK PRIOR to issue date.

THE "RALLY!" COLUMN

TONY DORIGO — IT'S INCREDIBLE!

THIS Tony Dorigo must be an incredible guy. He began as an Adelaide City junior and at 21 he is already a success in the English First Division.

His development is so marked that he is being recognised by Bobby Robson — to the extent that he is bordering on playing for England against Brazil.

Sometimes we talk about English football in derogatory fashion. When we do so we delude ourselves, because it is way up there.

Dorigo under consideration for England? Incredible!

Yet he is not the only one Australian to succeed. Have a look at Eddie Krncevic, David Mitchell and Jim Patikas.

And they all want to play for Australia as well, although there seems to be some problems between Frank (Arok) and Eddie.

Last week ASW featured Craig Johnston — and what a career he is having with one of the greatest football clubs in the world — Liverpool.

The Craig Johnston saga continues with an enormous weight of publicity behind it.

It is quite different with the other expatriate players. They have had to do it without that huge media backup.

Do you know the man who is behind Craig? No? Well I can tell you.

He is Craig's friend Neil Jameson, now the No1 columnist and writer for the Newcastle Herald.

Who can create publicity for a player like Neil

can? He is the master of his craft.

Yet Craig can't win an England or Scotland jersey. All the recognition he has won — and deserved — can't do that for him.

But Tony Dorigo could be on the verge of an England place to slot in for Kenny Sansom, who has been operated on for a hernia.

He learnt his football in Australia. The rise of the kid shows that our junior standards need a bit of recognition.

Eddie's Success

Looking to some of our other big-time players, there was nothing to puzzle about when Eddie Krncevic scored twice for Anderlecht in the Belgian championship the other day.

He is worth \$700,000 on the transfer market at least. One writer went as far as valuing him at \$1,500,000.

But what is the problem with Eddie and the Socceroos?

If he said to Frank that he wouldn't play under him as coach, then Frank is quite right in discarding him. He couldn't do anything else and I respect him for it.

But I have to wonder how it really truly happened, and could there be another solution.

To follow on from Johnston, Dorigo and



TONY DORIGO (left) and ANDREW BERNAL (right) two of Australia's finest export since Fosters Lager! ASW's ace columnist — Rale Rasic finds the success of those two and others quite incredible...



Krncevic, I must say that I am struck with the glowing success of our strikers overseas. For some reason they have high in-built qualities.

They come in a great tradition. I had a lot to do with Ray Baartz and analysed him closely. And then there was Ernie

Campbell — another great player at his peak.

Today we have Graham Arnold, Rod Brown, Robbie Slater, Frank Farina and others playing at remarkable standards.

Brown has exceptional qualities. Coaches can

spend months and years encouraging strikers to take off into space, but Brown does it so beautifully and without any need for calling.

The likes of Farina, Slater and Brown need real recognition and I'm deadly serious about



RALE RASIC — the man who led Australia to the 1974 World Cup and current APIA coach writes for ASW and he holds nothing back!

that.

Slater, I believe, has been suffering for different reasons. With his good form, I believe that Frank at some stage will be big enough to recognise that a mistake has been made, and correct it.

But, to leave aside strikers, we also have developed defenders like Alan Davidson, Tommy Caton, and Andrew Bernal as well.

Taking the Chance

I have real respect for the players who packed their bags and went overseas to make their name in countries where football is close to a religion.

Eddie Krncevic and David Mitchell went one further.

They had the courage to pay out their contracts — and what a financial blow it would have been to them because they could not really afford the cost.

All they had was a suitcase each — and a motto: "I will succeed."

Today I believe that \$1,000,000 would not be too great a figure to put on Mitchell's proper transfer value.

Look at it. These players came through the ranks on about three training sessions a week.

They had to compete with players who trained under professional conditions twice per day... and every day of the week.

What a difference in input time!

Well, to sum up a few thoughts in what is my first SOCCER WEEKLY column.

• CRAIG JOHNSTON — a great character, unbelievable drive — now British by nationality, but a dinki-di Aussie at heart. Backed up by a brilliant manager in Neil Jameson, he has the entire media at his command.

• TONY DORIGO — he is doing so well and could go much further internationally than Craig Johnston has. He will get more publicity in future — but he will have to earn it the hard way.

• MY CONGRATULATIONS to the other Aussie superstars, who journeyed overseas to compete with the best. They have succeeded on ability alone, winning recognition without the aid of any macho publicity machine.

SOCCER FAIR GAME FOR IMAGINATION

WHENEVER the game of Soccer in Australia achieves something worthwhile, that same achievement becomes fair game for the knockers, the sour grapers and the individuals who believe this game owes them a living.

Publicity over recent weeks, particularly in Sydney, is ample proof of this phenomenon following the appointment of a coach of the AIS.

All of a sudden the game is bedeviled with "closed shops", "jobs for the boys", members of "the Pommie Mafia" and other figments of overactive imaginations.

These claims are generally precipitated by an element of fear in people who see systems such as the National Coaching Scheme as a threat.

The sad thing is that the opposite is true. If only they would give it a try and put themselves on show and that way we could all learn from each other.

Courses are a shortcut to experience: they make people more aware.

A bit of paper won't turn a man into a good coach, but it does mean

he has been given a push in the right directions. How far he goes will then depend on his intelligence and personality.

There are many coaches who were not outstanding players, some never played at a high level, but they think about the game and study it.

They keep their eyes open and they know enough to realise that there is always something new to learn. The windows of their mind are open and they are receptive to change and innovations.

Pickers

There are coaches who are really just pickers of teams, but if Soccer is to flourish both as an art and a science it needs men who are properly qualified as coaches.



BY TIM WHITE
Victorian State
Director of
Coaching

The game must have men who believe in it and understand it, who study to equip themselves and who have learned the best ways to pass on their knowledge and motivate players.

They must have minds that are open to change and improvement and be willing to draw on the best ideas and methods from all over the world of Soccer.

The British way of playing the game, which is said to have influenced

• Continued page 11

GET SET FOR SATURDAY!

BY FRANK COLETTA

THE parties should be in full swing by the time the tube gets tuned to 'Wilko', 'Skippy' and 'ET' on the ABC at eleven.

What am I talking about?

The FA Cup Final of course! Saturday night Australian time, Tottenham Hotspur take the field for that legendary old piece of silverware against 4-1 underdogs Coventry City.

The Highfield Road side go into the daunting atmosphere reserved only for Wembley Stadium against a supremely confident Spurs outfit.

There is no reason why the Tottenham shouldn't be confident of victory either. Take these points into consideration.

Clive Allen is just a couple of goals from hitting the 50 mark for the season, Ray Clemence is nearing the end of his career and wants to go out on a winning note.

That maestro of the midfield Glenn Hoddle is playing probably his last match for Spurs in England, as he looks likely to move to the continent and will want to achieve what Ian Rush of Liverpool was unable to and that is to leave Wembley a last up winner. Finally the White Hart Lane boys are primed to win the Cup for poor Danny Thomas, the victim of a wretched knee injury just six weeks ago.

Despite all this against them Coventry can't be written off. Never can an underdog be written off in the FA Cup Final — the most likely of places for upsets.

City qualified for the big day by virtue of a sensational extra-time winner by Dave Bennett in the semi-final against Leeds United, which they took 3-2. Spurs whipped Watford 4-1 in the other semi-final.

This is the Midlands club's first-ever FA Cup final.

Coventry have plenty going for them. Former Liverpool keeper Steve Ogrizovic is safe and commanding in the area, Cyrill Regis is a powerhouse centre-forward and showed the class that earned him England recognition in the early 1980's with a blockbusting goal in the semi-final and Nick Pickering, the former Sunderland midfielder and renowned England Under 21 international, is a threat at any time.

But they are up against it. Spurs are so well off in the player department that there has been talk of Belgian international Nico Claessen missing out on a spot in the final squad.

In the centre of defence captain and Scottish international Richard Gough has a formidable combination with England's Gary Mabbutt.

A late withdrawal this week was Coventry's left-back Borrow who is in hospital after breaking his leg.

QUEENSLAND'S NSL PROPOSAL AGREED

BY GREG RUSSELL

THE National League promotion qualifying series is to be played at one venue following the acceptance of a Queensland Soccer Federation proposal at the recent State secretaries meeting.

The QSF argued that the cost of staging the series would be exorbitant and wasteful if the clubs involved were required to jet around the country playing a round robin.

Under the QSF proposal the three teams, being the champions from Queensland, Victoria and South Australia, will gather at the one venue, decided by a draw of lots. The venue would then be rotated each year.

The first match in the series would be played on a Wednesday night, the second on the Friday and the third on the Sunday. All gate receipts and possibly any television royalties would be pooled out of which clubs could take legitimate and approved expenses. Any loss, or profit, after that would then be split between the ASF and the competing states.

The third Wednesday in October has been tentatively set down as the start of the inaugural series.

But the final format has yet to be completed as the clarification of the rules also added a new twist. Unlike as many thought, only the team winning the championship in each state will be eligible to play in the promotion series. The opportunity will not be offered to teams down the table in the event of the winning team declining to enter the NSL.

That could mean just two teams would play in the promotion series. Which then would be decided on aggregate scores, or it could mean automatic promotion for one team if the other two states do not offer a representative.

NATIONAL SCOREBOARD

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NSL RESULTS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sydney Croatia	6	5	1	-	17	4	11
Leichhardt	7	4	3	-	14	8	11
Marconi	7	4	1	2	11	5	9
Adelaide City	7	2	4	1	12	7	8
Melb Croatia	7	4	-	3	9	11	8
Preston	6	2	3	1	6	4	7
Brunswick	6	3	1	2	6	5	7
Sth Melb	6	3	-	3	9	8	6
Heidelberg	7	2	1	4	14	15	5
St George	7	2	1	4	6	12	5
Olympic	6	1	2	3	7	10	4
Footscray	6	-	2	4	2	12	2
Sunshine	6	-	1	5	4	16	1

ST GEORGE 3 (S Ollerenshaw, K Hagan, A Pottier) SOUTH MELBOURNE 2 (C Egan, P Wade) at St George Stadium. Crowd: 1237.

LEICHHARDT 2 (C Yankos, G Ward) SYDNEY OLYMPIC 1 (J Kosmina) at Lambert Park. Crowd: 7250.

MELBOURNE CROATIA 1 (P Lewis) MARCONI 0 at Marconi Stadium. Crowd: 2584.

FOOTSCRAY 0 SYDNEY CROATIA 0 at Schintler Reserve. Crowd: 4200.

HEIDELBERG 6 (T Selamidis 2, L McKinna 2, P. Tsolakis, A Hunter) SUNSHINE 2 (S Richardson, J Markovski) at Heidelberg. Crowd: 2000.

ADELAIDE CITY 0 PRESTON 0 at Olympic Sports Field. Crowd: 3253.



NSL TOP SCORERS

LAURIE MCKINNA 4 Heidelberg	FRANK FARINA 4 Marconi
ROD BROWN 7 APIA-Leichhardt	IAN WALLACE 4 Melbourne Croatia
ROBBIE SLATER 7 Sydney Croatia	PAUL WADE 4 South Melbourne
JOHN KOSMINA 5 Sydney Olympic	GRAHAM ARNOLD 4 Sydney Croatia
CHARLIE VILLANI 4 Adelaide City	



Leading scorer Robbie Slater on the ball.

A FINE TONIC FOR THE ILLS

BY FRANK COLETTA

MELBOURNE CROATIA found the perfect remedy for their ills of the last week with a 1-0 win away at the expense of Marconi at Marconi Oval.

It was an excellent recovery considering the fact that the Melbourne club had lost two games in four days — and their coach Terry Hennessy into the bargain.

Marconi never really looked good enough to take the match and Croatia care-taker coach Peter Ollerton was more than pleased afterwards.

"We came here looking for a point and to get the two is a big bonus," said the man likely to take over the reins at the club permanently.

The game was evenly poised early on with both sides having chances to go ahead.

Paul Lewis and Ian Wallace threatened in the opening five minutes and the home side had a goal disallowed by referee Alan Kibbler in the third minute.

Steve Maxwell, who had an up-and-down game, started a move and delivered a pass in the area for Frank Farina to finish.

But the 'goal' was ruled out as the former Addict striker had pushed Graham Heys prior to gaining possession.

The visitors took the initiative and after 33 minutes the lead. A beautiful ball from Wallace to Josip Biskic started the move rolling and the talented midfielder strode forward before off-loading to Heys on the right.

The ex-Preston flankman steadied and chipped Bob Catlin only to hit the bar, the rebound fell kindly for Lewis whose volley was clinical.

Marconi pushed forward, albeit with little fire and Maxwell had a weak header from a corner saved seven minutes from half-time.

The pressure was applied immediately after the break by the Fairfielders. Yet it took a quarter of an hour before a clear-cut opportunity was created.

Zlatko Nasteovski

pushed a pass neatly through for David Lowe whose wild and woolly slog at goal was quite out of character for the stocky midfielder.

Despite Farina's determination and running, the Marconi front-line lacked the spark with George Hannah, Dave MacIntosh and Alan Davidson keeping a vice-like grip on the strikers, sometimes literally!

The closest call for Croatia came from Alan Scott. The striker was caught in defence when a Maxwell cross crashed into his foot and over Mirko Runje who managed to backtrack and touch the ball onto the bar in the 68th minute.

Nasteovski came out of his shell a quarter of an hour from time to let fly with a curling shot that Runje flicked over.

"We lost the game in the first half," said Marconi's coach Robert Vieri. "What can I say? I can't go out and play for them."

Ollerton made it clear that he'd shaken some cobwebs out of the star-studded Croatian line-up.

"A few of them had been on holidays. But today they smartened up and our defence was particularly strong," he said.

MARCONI: Catlin, Carter, Wheatley, Henderson, Gomez, Gray (Sterrey 71), Lowe, Farina, Nasteovski, Maxwell, McCulloch.

MELBOURNE CROATIA: Runje, Davidson, McIntosh, Dunn, Hannah, Heys, Biskic (Milosevic 86), Campbell, Lewis, Wallace, Scott.

CROWD: 2584.

REFEREE: A.Kibbler (Qld)

YELLOW CARDS: Gray (Marc), Heys (M.Croatia) McIntosh (M.Croatia).

— APIA'S MERRY

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

APIA continued on their undefeated merry way with a late goal against Sydney Olympic at Lambert Park to join Sydney Croatia at the top of the table after seven rounds.

And what a fabulous match this was. It had everything the paying customer could have wished for.

Power, pace, personal duels, tough tackling, skills, and, above all, non-stop action plus three goals.

The first session was very tight with one-on-one combats such as John Kosmina v Arno Bertogna, David Ratcliffe v Rod Brown, Steve Georgakis v Burim Zajmi, Peter Katholos v Vicente Estavillo.

Olympic's left-back Georgakis, discovered by Ratcliffe, did extremely well in holding the powerful Zajmi, whose crashing runs have ripped apart many Apia opponents.

Sydney Olympic, stunned Apia when they hit the lead in the 63rd minute from nothing short of a fantastic Kosmina goal.

Kosmina zipped into the box and from a very sharp angle on the left, smashed a scorching blind-hit from 10 metres that crashed into the far right side of the target.

Kosmina's magnificent hit was absolutely world-class.

But Sydney Olympic's joy was short-lived as Apia hit back with two goals to take the match.

Charlie Yankos, Australia's World Cup skipper and Apia's powerful centre-back, pushed upfield for a Jean Paul de Marigny corner from the right, to equalise with a strong header.

To be honest, any corner whipped into the six-yard box should always be cut off, but Olympic's defence was caught napping.

The 74th minute saw the powerful, crash-running Zajmi scream away on a 75 metre raid down the right flank with three Olympic defenders in hot pursuit, but this time goalkeeper Gary Meier did extremely well to smother the shot.

Just 10 minutes from the bell, Apia substitute Gary Ward was sent away by a 60 metre ball from fellow substitute Edward Lorens down the left.

Ward easily sliced through Olympic's cover defence and rounded Meier to smash home the winner.

Stars for Apia were both centre-backs, Ber-

togna and Yankos plus Jean-Paul de Marigny, whilst for Olympic, Vicente Estavillo's defensive work was excellent in the first half with Georgiakis and Kosmina.

After the match, a most disappointed Eddie Thomson stated: "Two stupid goals we allowed greatly angered me. We will work it out at training during the week."

But a proud and very popular Apia skipper, Bertogna, stated: "We didn't play all that great and we can still improve another 20 per cent. Our confidence is growing with every match."

Apia's coach, Rale Rasic stated: "I was very happy with my boys who despite being a goal down, kept their heads and worked together to get the two goals needed for victory."

APIA: Pezzano: Brown, Bertogna, Yankos, De Marigny: Bundalo (Ward 53rd), Katholos, Butler (Lorens 76th), Treddinick: Zajmi, Brown.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Meier: Hooker, Ratcliffe, Dakos, Georgiakis: Dragicevic (Harper 76th), Johnston, Estavillo, Saad: Kosmina, Kalantzis (Patalis 76th).

Referee: C.Bambridge.

Crowd: 7,250.

Yellow Cards: Saad, De Marigny, Dragicevic, Zajmi, Georgiakis.



When Greek meets Greek . . . Tony Dakos (left) and Peter Katholos.

SAINTS ARE ON THE MARCH

By JOHN ECONOMOS

ST GEORGE crushed visiting South Melbourne 3-2 on a rain-soaked St George Stadium to register only their second win of the season.

The game could quite easily have finished in a 3 all draw or a 6-2 victory for the home side such was the fickleness of the match.

Saints stunned the far more experienced Victorians with sheer pace that brought them three goals in just six minutes.

St George's goals came from Scott Ollerenshaw (43rd), Kevin Hagan (47th) and Alan Pottier (48th).

Giant centre-back Steve O'Connor, swung to the free-back position

to inject enormous confidence into the young St George kids. O'Connor was almost immaculate and should be drafted back into the Australian side.

Striker Graeme Fletcher, with more composure in front of goals, could have rattled up a personal hat-trick.

Substitute midfielder, Alan Pottier cemented the St George victory after coming on at half-time.

Pottier supplied the cross for Hagan's goal and a minute later slam-

med a cracking left-footed drive to score himself.

Saints literally ran South off their feet in the first half and only excellent goalkeeping by South's Peter Laumets kept them out.

Fletcher twice was denied by Laumets as the Souths' custodian began to think a conspiracy had been planned against him.

South Melbourne's midfield trio of Carl Halford, Paul Wade and Kenny Murphy were not competitive enough in the first session.

Saints busted South Melbourne in the 43rd minute when Ollerenshaw slammed a first time drive into the

net. Understandably with a three goal lead Saints became loose.

The 74th minute saw South's dynamic little striker, Charlie Egan smash a Danny Wright rebound into the net then Paul Wade pulled back another goal in the 83rd minute.

In the 85th minute Egan scored what could have been the equaliser but referee, Rob Davies' linesman flagged off side.

Stars for St George were Pottier, O'Connor, Fletcher and Ollerenshaw whilst Souths' best was easily Laumets with Egan trying very hard without supply.

A most disappointed Souths coach, Brian Garvie, stated: "We had to push forward immediately after halftime and we obviously got caught out at the back."

But Saints' coach, Frank Arok, was elated not only by his side's second NSL victory, but also over his star substitute midfielder, Alan Pottier.

"That guy was brilliant," he said.

ST GEORGE: Gibson: Green, O'Connor, O'Shea, Kulscar (Pottier 46th); Slavski, Moffitt, Ollerenshaw: Fletcher, Hagan, Koczka (Grbevski 69th).

SOUTH MELBOURNE: Laumets: Russell, Blair, McDowell, Postecoglou: Halford, Wade, Murphy (Wright 65th); Egan, Stevenson, Crainie (Kalogeros 80th).

Referee: R.Davies.

Crowd: 1,237.

MONTH OF MAY— APIA JOIN LEAD



JOHN KOSMINA and STUART JOHNSTON celebrate Olympic's goal in the big match against APIA at Lambert Park. (Photo Modern Studio).



CELEBRATIONS ...
after the Kosmina
goal.

BERGERS ON A WAVE

GREG BLAKE

HEIDELBERG United is riding on the crest of a wave after demolishing Sunshine George Cross 6-2 at Olympic Village last Sunday.

The Bergers have now smashed 11 goals in two games following their 5-0 thrashing of Melbourne Croatia in a cup quarter final just five days beforehand.

It was not so much that Heidelberg won so convincingly on Sunday, it was how the Bergers took the game.

Down 2-1 at half-time they bounced back off the canvas to smash five unforgettable goals past helpless George Cross.

Heidelberg supporters would wish this game had gone on forever, such was the entertainment they provided.

An encouraging George Cross first half turned into a nightmare second 45 minutes as Heidelberg tore it to bits.

Brash, young midfielder John Anastasiadis was quite superb; Theo Selemidis turned an inspirational skipper's effort and Peter Tsolakis taunted and teased.

George Cross, depleted with Sean Parton suspended, was still in the game until it lost prime-mover John Markovski who was stretched off 15 minutes from fulltime.

Heidelberg, against the run of play, had gone ahead in the 19th minute when Tsolakis scored.

Then Sunshine struck back through Steve Richardson from the penalty spot.

Ten minutes from the break Sunshine went ahead when Markovski blasted home a spectacular left foot shot from 20 metres.

Heidelberg came out a different team after the interval and in the 63rd Selemidis scored.

Selemidis' second goal seven minutes later came out of the blue.

Four minutes later Laurie McKinna glided a header into the net to make it 4-2.

McKinna scored with another header 10 minutes from time with the Berger's sixth goal coming up just seconds from full time when Alan Hunter converted from the penalty spot.

HEIDELBERG: Oliver, Hunter, Katsakidis, Kanesoulis, Selemidis, Fraser, Lucchesi, Anastasiadis, McKinna, Tsolakis and Tzintzis (Valentine HT).
GEORGE CROSS: Keogh, Taylor, Campbell, Richardson, McLaren, Markovski, (Inness 75), Bain, Trimball, Marth, Faulkner and Markovac (Gilder 71).
Referee: D. Campbell.
Attendance: 2500.

PRESTON NOT FOOLED BY ADELAIDE'S BLUFF

BY TOM MCKAIN

PRESTON called Adelaide City's bluff at Olympic Sports Field on Sunday to hold the champions to a 0-0 draw.

City had expected the Victorians to fall back in a 10 man behind the ball defensive formation, as most teams have done, even at home.

Instead, Preston came at the SA team in a cut and thrust game which saw both goalkeepers, Willie McNally for City and Preston's Phillip Trianides in action.

But the credit, as always, must go to the visiting team for denying the champions a home win.

To do this they had a disciplined side which sat on stars Adrian Santrac, Charlie Villani, Joe Mullen and cut-out midfielder Aurellio Vidmar and ball player Lemmy Vatsilas.

City failed to get their

wide game going, which has presented so many problems for other teams, and while they still turned on some devastating close passing it did not produce a goal.

Vidmar had the first opportunity from a Santrac free kick which was quickly taken, but Trianides was there.

Then Santrac sent in a long shot which the keeper grasped and he dived on another ball from Vatsilas.

At the other end of the park John Stuart forced McNally to dive and he had to punch away and collect crosses.

Into the second half and Preston cut loose

PRESTON TAKE UP THE GAME

with Steve Smith watching his shot bounce off the post.

City hit back and front-runner Paul Wilde hit one over the bar in his comeback game after four weeks out with a muscle injury, then Villani shot only to see Trianides smother his effort.

Sydney referee Ken Small had a nerve-racking game with decisions upsetting both teams.

He incurred the wrath of home supporters when Mullen and Vidmar broke on the left and Trianides came well out of his box and appeared to clear the ball with his hand.

Then Stuart was there again for Preston when McNally pushed the ball for a corner, and Steve Gojevic shot low only to miss by inches.

There was panic in the home camp in the 80th minute when Preston defender Ian Dobson hit the crossbar, and there was a claim for hand ball from home fans a minute later when Santrac took a corner.

ADELAIDE CITY: McNally, Melita, Nyskohus, Shillabeer, Tobin, Santrac (T Mullen 85th), Villani, Vidmar, J Mullen, Vatsilas (Toland 66th), Wilde.

PRESTON: Trianides, Opasinis, McLellan, Jackson, Dobson, Campbell, Gojevic, Ilioski, Smith, Stuart, Piculovski. Referee: K Small (Sydney). Crowd: 3,253.



Mark Jones in a challenge with Vlado Bozinovski.

THE DRAW YOU HAVE WHEN YOU DON'T HAVE A DRAW

BY LES SHORROCK

THERE are some scoreless draws which are as dull as the scoreline suggest. This was not one of them.

Both teams played an entertaining, close passing game, and the result was a moral victory for Croatia.

Forget that Footscray is still looking for its first league win.

It gave high-flying Sydney Croatia quite a fright and, in the end the visitors would have been happy to depart with a point.

Oscar Crino made all the difference to Footscray.

He showed all his artistry of old until he naturally tired in the last 20 minutes.

Goalmouth incidents were few and far between, a highlight prob-

ably being when Footscray's Eddie Campbell cleared a powerful Graham Arnold header off the line.

But for most of the game the defenders were well on time.

Footscray's Tom Karic and Bill Lazopoulos kept a tight grip on Arnold and Robbie Slater.

At the other end Vedran Rozic and Ray Vlietstra were equally competent.

For all that, Slater, the league's leading goal scorer impressed with his aggression and willingness to chase everything.



OSCAR CRINO

Footscray coach Drago Sekularic surprised by leaving Tyrone James on the bench but he came on in the first half to replace the injured Garry van Egmond and acquitted himself well.

If Footscray maintains this form it will soon



VEDRAN ROZIC

climb out of the doldrums.

FOOTSCRAY: Nikitovic, Karic, van Egmond (James 40th), Lazopoulos, Tapal, Bozinovski, Lujic, Curovic, Campbell, Spink (Latif 75th), Crino.

SYDNEY CROATIA: Franken, Jennings, Vlietstra, Rozic, Clinch, Slater, Savor, Arnold, Jones, Rumora, Lamond (Jurin ht).

FICKLE CAPITAL FANS ARE HARD TO PLEASE

BY GRAHAM COOKE

CANBERRA Griffins maintained their unbeaten record at Bruce Stadium this season with a 2-0 NSW State Bank League win over Manly-Warringah — but it seems it is hard to please the fickle fans in the national capital.

Only around 350, the smallest crowd of the season, turned up to see the match between championship contenders and they jeered Canberra player-coach Augusto Palacios when he sent a long back pass to goalkeeper George Economopoulos in the last 10 minutes.

Palacios, who played most of the game with suspected mild concussion after taking a bad knock in the fourth minute, said the spectators failed to understand the pressures on his team.

"Manly were pushing forward and we had to match this," he said. "While I want to play attractive soccer it is more important to make sure of the points."

This Canberra did with two second half goals to make up for an Alan Reis penalty miss in the first.

With an hour gone Reis's pass found Sixto Gonzales well placed in front of goal.

Goalkeeper Warwick Tingle saved his first attempt but he was

following up well to make no mistake with his second chance.

The second resulted from one of the game's best moves, begun and ended by midfielder Tom Sermanni.

In the 77th minute Sermanni sent Reis away. Reis crossed to striking partner Ray Junna whose shot beat Tingle but was headed off the line by Ashley Williamson.

The ball rebounded to Sermanni who placed it coolly and firmly out of everyone's reach.

CANBERRA: Economopoulos, Bryant, Mazis, Dunn, Suarez, P Reis, Junna, Sermanni, Palacios, A Reis, Gonzales.

MANLY: Tingle, Dennis, Man-gham, Williamson, Robbin, Etherington, Juergens, Carrick, Ferguson, Cimarosti (Barker 67th), Stuart.



AUGUSTO PALACIOS

STRONG REFEREE NEEDED

BY ALEX VESIC

I HOPE that a top referee gets to officiate the Melita-Wollongong match at Melita Stadium for this is certainly not going to be a game for the faint hearted.

Neither side can afford to lose this one and I fancy that the tempers might get the better of some of the players.

It is therefore imperative that the likes of Gary Power or Richard Lorenc be called upon to control this match.

As to the outcome of the derby, I must pick the home side for two reasons.

Melita is four points behind the leaders and needs points desperately to remain in touch. Its form of late, plus the

home ground advantage must surely account for the favouritism.

But watch out for Roberto Giraldi and Randall Easthorpe.

Ku-Ring-Gai will have its own problems facing Sutherland. Both sides were thumped this week losing by four clear goals and neither can afford to concede a goal early. In a tight match I expect a tight scoreline 0-0, or even 1-1.

Much improved Inter Monaro should prove

too strong for Newcastle at Queanbeyan but the home side must take note: Newcastle has a lot of speed and could counter to score. There will be heaps of goals with Inter the favourites on the day.

Manly Warringah will entertain Warringah Freshwater at Cromer. This is billed as the North Sydney championship and Manly will go into the game as favourites.

Uruguay to surprise Canberra City at Cook Park?

Despite some fine results this season by Can-

berra I believe that Augusto Palacios will be hard pressed to keep the speedy Uruguayan forwards out.

Wollongong Macedonia will have their own troubles with Blacktown City at Berkeley and will have to fight hard to avoid a thumping by the rampaging Demons while Rockdale Ilinden must be favoured to beat Canterbury at home.

However, a word of warning for Rockdale. Zlatko Arambasic has been in great form lately and the youngster could surprise Barker.

WOLLONGONG STAKE A CLAIM

IN A very one sided game the visitors from Wollongong staked a claim for the title by demolishing Sutherland Shire 4-0 at Seymour Shaw Park.

It was the game the home side would like to forget in a hurry as Cokely, Hristovski and Easthorpe tore holes in this less than effective Sutherland midfield.

And whilst the home

side made hard work of its forward thrust, Randall Easthorpe showed them how to give his side the lead with a well taken goal in the 14th minute.

Soon after the home

side appealed for a penalty as a Wollongong defender fell over the ball but were denied by the referee, Gary Power.

Sutherland could claim very little from

this game as the visitors roamed through to score almost at will in the 61st through Easthorpe, then Giraldi in the 69th.

Hristovski put the icing on the cake with a superb 30 metre drive in the 87th minute.

And while John Fleming can now quite happily plan his return bout with Blacktown Sutherland will have to go back to the drawing board.

Much credit to the success so far at Wollongong must be given to their top scorers Easthorpe (6) and Roberto Giraldi (5).

SUTHERLAND: Burchmore, R.O'Shea, Cox, Terry, Nelson, J.O'Shea, Meades, Harrington, Lerond, Hall, Sharpe.

WOLLONGONG CITY: Young, Skeen, Morlando, Dickson, Hollfield, Coakely, Giraldi (82nd), Ainsworth, (Trajcevi 82nd), Easthorpe, Stefanovski.

EXTRA FIRE EARNS A POINT

CRAIG Thompson, one of the most talented players to come from the Penrith nursery of soccer players came on for David Batten at the start of the second half to instil the fire needed for his side to earn a point.

It was Canterbury who used all the breaks in the first half with Nelio Borges directing traffic and Theo Andromidas and Zlatko Arambasic making life difficult for O'Donnell and Woods.

Arambasic was at his best in the 26th minute as he raced through to

set up John Stamos's goal.

Andromidas was on the receiving end of another superb pass from Arambasic to score in the 45th minute.

Then came the replacement for Uruguay with Thompson getting on the park to provide the spark.

John Bradley made it 2-1 with only five minutes of the second half gone then Gonzales was brought down in the 59th giving Brett Woods a chance to score from the penalty.

Both sides were happy with the final goal tally despite the fact that numerous chances went

begging, particularly to Uruguay.

CANTERBURY: Hummel, Antonides, Mickovski, (Stavropoulos 55th), Radman, Vadarakis, George, Stamos (Alexakis 55th), Kalogeras, Borges, Andromidas, Arambasic.

PENRITH: DIMarchi, O'Donnell, Tomasich, Woods, Bourke, Gonzales, Batten (Thompson 46th), Bradley, Hunter, Genc, McKie.

RANDELL IS THE TOP GUN

RANDELL Easthorpe became the leading goalgetter in the State League after scoring two goals against Sutherland, while his team mate Roberto Giraldi is in second spot with five goals.

This is the list of top scorers in the State League after nine rounds:

6: Easthorpe (WC); 5: Giraldi (WC), Reynolds, van Blerk, Kay (BC), A. Reis (CG), Jeffery (K); 4: Andromidas (CM), Cimarosti (MW), Vial (ME), Penfold, N. Drysdale (N), Batten, Woods, McKie (UP).

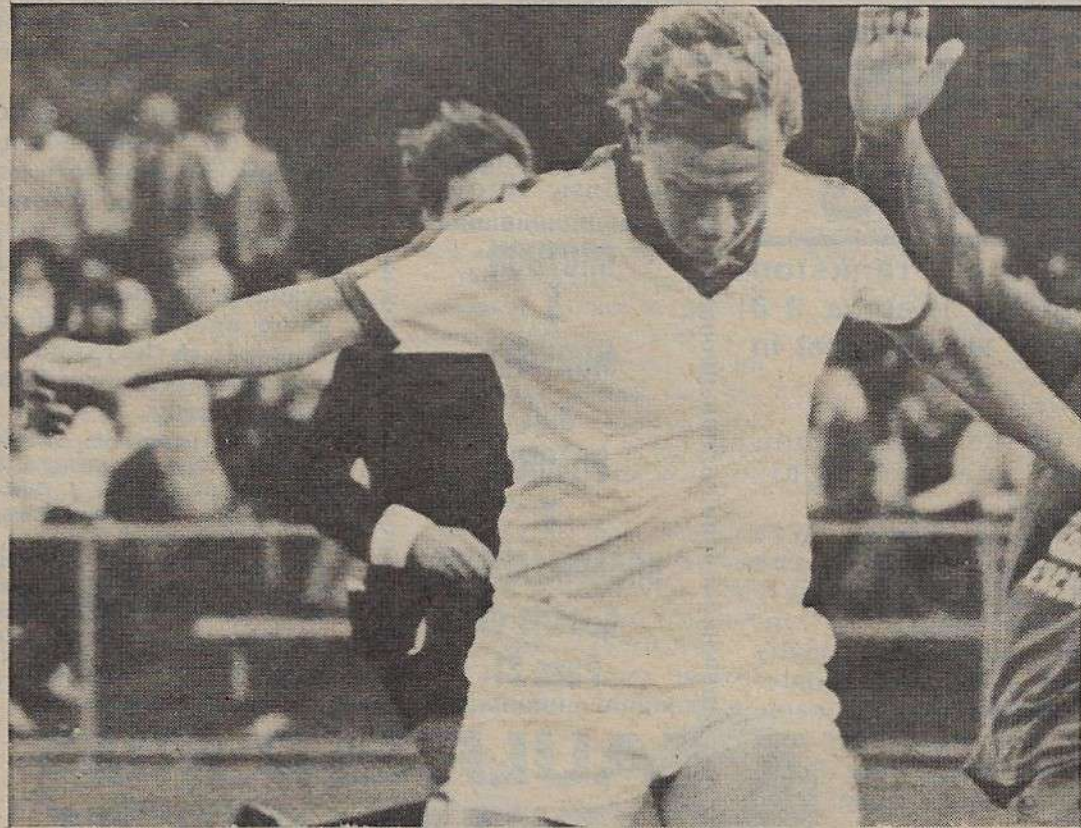
Points of interest: Roberto Giraldi of Wollongong City and Glen Jeffery of Ku-Ring-Gai have scored in five successive matches.

Brett Woods has scored four goals — all from the penalty spot!

Mark Cimarosti of Manly scored four goals in the first four rounds but hasn't scored since!

Craig Penfold scored in the first, third, fifth and seventh rounds of the competition.

In round nine he was due for a goal on 'averages', however his place was taken by Nigel Drysdale — who scored a hat-trick!



STEVE KNIGHT, the Warringah star.

PORT STAY ON TOP

DESPITE the muddy conditions the top of the table clash between Port Hacking and University produced an enthralling match.

Port Hacking struck in the 15th minute to go one up and almost immediately Uni rattled the bar at the other end.

Both sides displayed plenty of enterprise in attack resulting in end to end football worthy of their standing.

With only seven minutes remaining Port Hacking's man of the match, Brandtman wrapped up the points with a goal somewhat against the run of play.

For University Bencke again played a starring role.

The clash between

Rooty Hill and North Ryde, two of last year's semi-finalists, produced an exciting match well worth the fare with Rooty Hill winning 1-0.

Rooty Hill quickly went to the lead after two minutes through a goal by Wayne Mitchell laid on by Robert Guy.

Despite the early setback North Ryde threw caution to the wind and pressed solidly throughout.

However, on the break Rooty Hill could have gone further ahead with opportunities falling to Guy and teenager Jason Connolly.

For North Ryde goalkeeper Scaglione and Mamo had outstanding matches while Rooty Hill were best served by Terry Bertram, Lee Spiers and the exciting Connolly.

TABLE

Port Hacking	7	0	2	20	2	14
Granville Chile	5	2	1	30	8	12
West United	6	0	3	22	15	12
Uni of NSW	5	2	2	17	10	12
Rooty Hill	5	1	3	20	11	11
Campbelltown	4	3	2	21	14	11
Concordia	5	0	4	23	17	10
Mt Druitt	3	4	2	11	7	10
Bondi Marine	3	2	4	15	13	8
Baulkham Hills	3	1	5	10	15	7
King Tomislav	3	1	5	15	28	7
Moorebank	1	3	4	8	11	5
North Ryde	2	1	6	9	23	5
Canterbury	0	0	9	9	47	0

State Bank SOCCER LEAGUE

SATURDAY 16th MAY 2ND DIVISION

SSC Yugal Vs Polonia Mona Park

3RD DIVISION

Baulkham Hills Vs King Tomislav Ted Horwood Res
West United Vs Uni of NSW Harold Read Res

SUNDAY 17th MAY

STATE BANK SOCCER LEAGUE

Ku-ring-gai Vs Sutherland Parkland Oval
Inter Monaro Vs Newcastle Rosebud Marco Polo Gd
Manly W'gah Vs Warringah F/Water Cromer Park
Uruguayan Penrith Vs Canberra City Cook Park
Rockdale Ilinden Vs Cant. M'ville Oly Hurstville Oval
Wollongong Mac Vs Blacktown City Berkeley S/G
Melita Eagles Vs Wollongong City Melita Stadium

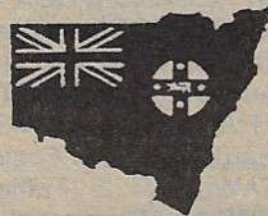
2ND DIVISION

Sydney Maccabi Vs Nth Bankstown Wentworth Pk
Campbelltown City Vs Avala Lynwood Park
Queens Park Vs Gladesville Hby Erskineville Oval
Dee Why Swans Vs Nth Syd Artamon Dee Why Oval
Fairy Meadow Vs Bathurst '75 Woll Police Boys Ov
Blacktown United Vs Kingsford Hellenic Francis Park No2

3RD DIVISION

Moorebank Vs Canterbury Hammondville Pk
Nth Ryde RSL Vs Granville Chile Magdala Park
Mt Druitt Town Vs Rooty Hill Popondetta Park
Port Hacking Vs Campbelltown Gun Seymour Shaw
Concordia Vs Bondi Marine Arlington Oval

THIS WEEKS MATCHES



State Bank

JOHN MANGAN'S
overview of the
Victorian State
League matches

TOAL GOAL CONTINUES REVIVAL

THE Northcote revival continued as a Bobby Toal goal swept the team to a 1-0 victory against Springvale City.

Frank Munro's team notched up its second consecutive win and lifted itself off the bottom of the State League with a gutsy, battling performance.

Springvale had been involved in a gritty struggle with high-flyers Green Gully the previous weekend and seemed jaded in the opening spell.

The crucial goal came in the 18th minute when the ball was knocked through to Toal who had his back to goal and was surrounded by three Springvale defenders.

Seized by indecision, the defenders hesitated and Toal took the chance to fire a quick shot past keeper Dennis Bolland.

Springvale's misery was summed up in the dying minutes of the game when Greg House nipped into the box, rounded the keeper Mark Turudia and passed to sub Dragan Vasic who, with an open goal, hit the ball into the side netting.

NORTHCOTE: Turudia, Stiliadis, Constantinou, Patiniotis, Kouremenos, Toro, Tsangas (Cutter 86th), Drakeford, Gymnopoulos, Toal, Bekiaris.

SPRINGVALE: Bolland, Vogel, Bissinger, Hobson, Adams, Swinscoe, Stewart, Kral, Williams, Garvey (Vasic 65th), House.

POLONIA MOVE CLEAR AT TOP

POLONIA moved a point clear at the top of the State League on a weekend which saw two of the most convincing wins the league has seen for a while.

On Saturday Oakleigh emphasised that it is a team to be reckoned with when it beat Thomastown 6-1.

While Thomastown may have been licking its wounds at least it scored a consolation goal. The AIS didn't even allow its opponents that luxury as it overwhelmed Frankston Pines at Monterey Park to the tune of 9-0.

While Green Gully and Caulfield battled it out for a 1-1 draw Box Hill had a surprise victory over top four challengers St. Albans Dinamo.

It was a promising result from a team which is to be strengthened by the arrival of Scottish import Stewart MacArthur this week and another player in the near future.



IAN TUFFIELD of Fawkner strides it out.
— Photo CARMELO DAZZANO

FAWKNER IN TOP FOUR

FAWKNER laid down the gauntlet to its Buffalo State League opponent with a 2-1 win over Western Suburbs that lifted it into the top four.

Solid defending by Suburbs kept Fawkner at bay for most of a game in which the home team had the greater part of the play.

Cozzella and Dougie Brown both had chances to increase Fawkner's lead just before halftime but failed to capitalise.

In the second-half Peter Verrecchia and Ian Tuffield both had headers cleared off the line but in the 75th minute the home side got its second goal when Brown shot into the back of the net.

Three minutes from time Suburbs got a consolation goal when David Smallman scored with a header.

FAWKNER: Wilson, Schipano, Fattore, Ferla, Walsh, Verrecchia, Palinkas (Sabbatino 50th), Tuffield, Chiavelli, D.Brown, Cozzella.
WESTERN SUBURBS: Kardamitis, Macleod, Hamill, Stefanidis, Kyriazis, Smallman, Farmer, Cullen, Tuck, Dimovski (Minh 75th), Palmeriotti (Kotselis 70th).

STATE LEAGUE RD 11 SATURDAY MAY 16th 1987

Northcote v Green Gully, Morwell Falcons v Broadmeadows.

SUNDAY MAY 17th 1987

West Suburbs v Frankston Pines, Springvale City v Oakleigh, Thomastown v Croydon City, Maribyrnong v St Albans, Box Hill v Fawkner, AIS v Caulfield City.

STATE LEAGUE — RD 8

DIV 1 — SAT MAY 16th 1987
Sunbury United v Richmond, Bulleen v Nunawading City, North Dandenong v Ringwood City, Knox City v Essendon City, Altona Gate v Doncaster Rovers.

SUNDAY MAY 17th 1987

SM Mordialloc v Albion, Werribee v Melbourne.

DIV 2 — SAT MAY 16th 1987

Prahran City v North Geelong, Ringwood United v Mornington, Sandringham City v Westgate, Hamlyn Rangers v Doveton, Dandenong City v Mooroolbark, Waverley City v Eltham, Altona City v Clifton Hill.

DIV 3 — SAT MAY 16th 1987

Yarraville v Springvale United, West Brunswick v Rosanna, Yallourn v Moorabbin City, Ferntree Gully v Corio-Geelong Utd, Bell Park v Geelong, Keilor v Clarinda, Moreland P.R. v Port Melbourne.

DIV 4 — SAT MAY 16th 1987

Williamstown v Prahran, Pascoe Vale v Lalor United, Seaford v Langwarrin, East Brunswick v Langwarrin, Karingal United v Keysborough, Boronia v Holland Park, Coburg v Diamond Valley Utd.

APOLOGY!

To Scott Patterson and Sean Parton for not getting their caption right. The pressure has been on, but we're learning quick!

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HILL ON TOP

BOX Hill confirmed St. Albans Dinamo's lack of depth with a sturdy 2-0 away victory on Saturday.

George Murray's team showed a lot of commitment but it wasn't until the 67th minute that the deadlock was broken when Barry Burton hit a ball from 40 metres that Mate Grgic opted to palm rather than punch.

Though he got his hands to the ball he only succeeded in deflecting it into his net.

Overly casual defence by Dinamo cost them any chance of getting a draw when, three minutes from the end, Box Hill won a free kick.

The Dinamo team had been pushing forward for the equaliser and didn't get enough players back into defence to stop Craig Davidson heading in the kick from George Campbell.

While other teams have strengthened their squads during the season — Box Hill for example have two imports due in the next few weeks — Dinamo have not done so and coach Tony Vrzina has discussed the situation with his committee.

Now that Mark Wilson has got his permanent resident visa Dinamo has two visa vacancies so will be free to look at players from overseas as well as locally.

DINAMO: Grgic, Colina, Kuzman, Krjacic, Dragovic, Duzel, Wilson, Rastocic (Batinovic 70th), Culina, Morovic, Runje.
BOX HILL: McKinlay, McMillan, Hennessey, Hird, Roodhouse, Brimmer (Taylor 75th), Davidson, Burton, Campbell, Mozinga, Mori (Azzopardi 60th).

AIS GIVE PINES A THRASHING

THE AIS repaid its hosts at Frankston Pines on Sunday by giving them a 9-0 thrashing that they certainly won't forget in a hurry.

Pines vice-president Bob Waugh arranged for the Institute team to come down to Melbourne on Saturday and run coaching sessions for 60 junior players. On Saturday night the AIS players were invited to a club barn-dance and were billeted out with local families.

The preparations did the Institute players a power of good as they came out on Sunday afternoon and decimated the opposition.

John Gibson scored in only the fifth minute but it could so easily have been 1-1 at halftime when, in the 41st minute, AIS keeper David Mower was called on to save at close range.

The AIS capitalised on its good fortune and ended Pines' chances of getting back into the game with two goals in the 43rd minute, the first coming from Doug Marcina and the second from Alistair Edwards, to give the visitors a 3-0 lead at the break.

AIS coach Ron Smith's halftime advice to his charges to be more adventurous paid handsome dividends in the second term.

Politis was in spectacular form.

He scored goals Maradona would've been proud to get, said Thomastown coach Mike Lynn.

The first goal came 15 minutes into the game when Politis flicked the ball over Paul Temos's head and volleyed it into the net past Mauro Raponi.

Just before halftime Oakleigh strengthened

its lead when the referee awarded a penalty for handball against Thomastown. Though Raponi got a hand to Stevie Irvine's kick he could not stop it spinning into the back of the net.

Three minutes into the second half Thomastown appeared to be getting back into the game when McGuinness converted a penalty awarded for a push on him in the area.

However, Kris Kalifatidis's Oakleigh team would not be stopped and in the 70th minute Chris Andriotis put John Gusic through to

CROYDON
V
MORWELL
and
POLONIA
V
BROADMEADOWS
Reports on
Page 21

CAULFIELD MISS THEIR CHANCES

THREE chances missed early on cost Caulfield the opportunity to sew up this game against title favourites Green Gully which ended 1-1.

The top of the table clash could have been decided early on when, in the first 15 minutes, Andy Theoharous, John Bitsonis and Louie Theodosopoulos all missed clear-cut chances.

Gus Macleod's team shot into the lead on the quarter-hour when a penalty was converted and this signalled the beginning of a blitz that did not ease up until halftime.

The Institute side was applauded off the park. **FRANKSTON:** Gugaysan, Hendry (Inj. Park 20th), Bentleigh, Bozic (Inj. Ferris h.t.), Hennessey, Watson, Harvey, McDonagh, Roberts, Richardson, Smith.

AIS: Mower, Healy, Cummings, Horvath, C.Foster, Gibson, Clarkson, Koch, Marcina, Edwards (Inj. Polak h.t.), P.Foster.

Phil Griffin won the ball on the left flank and knocked in a nicely weighted pass to Bitsonis who was hovering near the penalty spot and shot it past keeper Lou Denys.

With only minutes to go though Gully came close to taking both points when only some strong goalkeeping by Robert Madjer denied it a last minute winner.

GREEN GULLY: Denys, Hogben, Douglas, O'Donnell (Zemunik 80th), Cannell, McLelland, Grimaud, Carter, Sweeney, Quigley, Cumming.
CAULFIELD: Madjer, Filipou, Michell (Tsitridis 75th), Harris, Koutos, Theoharous, Hamakiotis, Bitsonis, Theodosopoulos, Griffin, Sahinidis (Abraam 30th).

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY

STATE LEAGUE

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Maribyrnong	10	7	2	1	23	12 16
Green Gully	10	5	5	0	14	9 15
Fawkner	9	5	3	1	14	7 13
Caulfield City	10	5	3	2	10	7 13
St Albans	9	5	2	2	16	10 12
Oakleigh	9	4	2	3	17	14 10
Western Suburbs	10	4	2	4	15	13 10
Box Hill	10	2	5	3	10	9 9
Morwell Falcons	9	2	5	2	8	7 9
Thomastown	9	3	1	5	7	15 7
Springvale City	9	1	4	4	8	11 6
Frankston Pines	9	2	2	5	14	19 6
Croydon City	10	1	4	5	6	14 6
Northcote City	9	2	1	6	6	17 5
Broadmeadows	9	1	1	7	10	18 3

ST ALBANS 0 BOX HILL 2 (Burton, Davidson).

NORTHCOTE 1 (Toal) SPRINGVALE 0.

OAKLEIGH 6 (Politis 3, Irvine pen, Gusic, Andriotis) THOMASTOWN 1 (McGuinness pen).

FRANKSTON 0 AIS 9 (Gibson, Marcina 2, Edwards, Polak 2, Foster 2, Cummings).

FAWKNER 2 (Tuffield, Brown) WESTERN SUBURBS 1 (Smallman).

BROADMEADOWS 2 (Nolan, Liberto) POLONIA 4 (Lalic, Storm, Marshall 2).

CROYDON 0 MORWELL 0.

GREEN GULLY 1 (penalty) CAULFIELD 1 (Bitsonis).

CRINO PLUS SEKULARAC ARE A BIG SPUR FOR FOOTSCRAY

BY GREG BLAKE

TWO years ago Oscar Crino was thought by many to be the best midfielder in the country.

And 12 months ago the revival of Footscray JUST was starting to gain momentum.

Since then both Crino and Footscray have seen their respective fair share of trials and tribulations, to the stage that now in 1987 they both have plenty to prove.

In the next month or two Crino, in tandem with the club, hope to prove all the doubters wrong.

And the Schintler Reserve club is gearing up to recapture the form that took it to its best ever league season in 1986.

After protracted negotiations between Footscray and Cypriot club Anorthosis, Crino, the former Juventus and South Melbourne Hellas star, is set to make his return to Australian Soccer.

His final clearance papers are due, so he is all set to make his Footscray debut within the next couple of weeks.

And for fans of elegant, ball-playing wizardry the return of Crino is long overdue.

He was a Soccerroo regular in his South Melbourne Hellas days and was one of Australia's stars in its unlucky World Cup qualifying bid in 1985.

It was after that series that the then 23-year-old midfielder decided to make an ill-fated first attempt to break into European football.

After weighing up two or three offers he decided to move to - of all places - Cyprus, where he joined four time league and three time Cypriot cup winners Anorthosis.

It was a move he has lived to regret and now the 35 times-capped Soccerroo is back to prove himself all over again.

Home Again

"At this stage I'm back for good", Crino told ASW.

I really just want to play for Australia again — for me that's a far bigger incentive than playing overseas.

"I'll be in Footscray's team as quick as I can."

"I've got to see how I feel after our training sessions as well, because I haven't played for a while."

"The main thing at the moment is to get my fitness back in order."

In fact it's been nearly a year since Crino last played a competitive game.

It was in June last year that he made the last of his six appearances with Anorthosis.

A groin injury — and a subsequent bout of homesickness — put Crino out of action and eventually succeeded in convincing him a move back home to Australia was the answer to his problems.

"In Cyprus the grounds were hard and the groin injury would never have healed in those conditions," Crino explained.

"I was never going to make Cyprus a permanent home. After the World Cup games I thought it was the right time to try to play in Europe."

"My plan was to get acclimatised for six months or so in Cyprus and then move on, but the injury put a stop to that."

"I just couldn't play under those conditions and I wasn't the only one having trouble."

"Terry McDermott, who is out there playing with Apoel currently, said he'd never been injured playing in England as much as he has been since he's been there."

"And of course you get homesick as well."

National Squad

Crino has been working hard toward his return to Australian Soccer and



DRAGOSLAV SEKULARAC

hopefully to the Soccerroos.

Already his training has been rewarded with a gradual return to fitness.

"The best thing about returning has been that the injury is already going away", he said.

"I still have to lose a bit of weight but I don't want to rush things too much."

"I've really only been working on getting fit for the past five or six weeks because I wasn't even sure I was going to play this year."

Initially a return to his old stamping ground at Middle Park was the obvious move.

He had talks with South Melbourne Hellas but the problem with injury and the troubles arranging the transfer from Cyprus held up negotiations.

It was at that time that Footscray stepped in and grabbed just the man they believed could get their title hopes back on the tracks.

"Footscray came in and did all the right things"

Crino told me.

"It has always been a club that likes playing great Soccer so I knew a move there would be right for me."

The classy midfielder believes the Footscray revival after a poor start to the season is now ready to begin.

He added: "I really think we'll start to pick up now."

"Seki (coach Drago Sekularac) didn't come back from Yugoslavia until late and I don't think the players have reached full fitness or peak form yet."

"In two or three weeks we'll be starting to get back to our best."

"I'm really impressed with Seki, the players respect him and his great knowledge of the game shows."

"And he just doesn't tell us. He can still get out on the training track and show us exactly how it's done."

The pairing of Sekularac and Crino could be the catalyst to spur Footscray back into title contention.

ANOTHER CASE OF "HERE WE GO AGAIN" FOR MELB CROATIA

BY LES SHORROCK

MELBOURNE CROATIA fans are walking around in a daze this week, affected by a strong attack of *deja vu*.

They could well be excused for thinking this is 1986, not 1987, for Croatia's '87 season is rapidly becoming a carbon copy of last season.

If you remember, Croatia rounded off the '85 season by winning the Dockerty Cup, then went on to cakewalk the Buffalo Cup early in '86.

It followed up by annihilating its Sydney cousins in the Ansett Challenge Shield, making it 11 wins in a row.

But, then, the League proper started and the wheels fell off. Israeli coach Miron Bleiberg went from hero to villain as the team inexplicably stumbled from one defeat to another, and eventually he had to go, to be replaced by Luka Bonacic.

Bonacic in his turn also went, to be replaced by Terry Hennessey, back for a second stint. (He's a glutton for punishment, is our Terry).

He blamed the club's slump on the departure - or should that be defection? - of Drago Deankovic, Davor Todoric and Ante Ljubic and managed to pull the team out of its slump and avoid relegation.

You'd think that clubs would by now, have learnt the lesson spelled so plainly last year by West Adelaide — that you can't just go out and buy success.

But the example provided by Westad was ignored by Croatia, who went on a recruiting jamboree that made Westad look like Scrooges.

There's an old adage that a star team will always beat a team of stars, but Croatia apparently hasn't heard it.

Good Terms

So, for a while, all seemed well. Croatia won the Buffalo Cup again, then the Ansett Challenge Shield for good measure and Croatia fans were on good terms with themselves.

But, came that dreadful first round game against Sydney Croatia, which the fans must have hoped would follow the pattern of the previous week, when the same club had been beaten in the Ansett game.

The resulting 6-1 de-

feat was a morale-crushing blow, which must have left deeper scars than was appreciated at the time.

Suddenly, all the self-doubt was back — how could a team boasting so much talent lose by so much?

Croatia bounced back with a win over Juventus, and it seemed the bad dream was over, and of course Ian Wallace had arrived and Willie Herd was on his way, wasn't he?

But then came Easter Monday, and the roof fell in at Middle Park.

It was all the more galling for Croatia fans that Adelaide City, last season's champion, supposedly in such financial trouble, had not made a major purchase during the close season and indeed was still relying on

a team it had beaten 3-1 in the League only 10 days before was the last straw.

It meant that Croatia had lost four games out of seven, conceding no fewer than 15 goals and scoring only one of the process.

And, off the field, confusion reigned supreme. After the Adelaide City game, Hennessey went down with a viral infection, and his assistant Peter Ollerton took charge for the League game against Heidelberg, which Croatia won and Hennessey recovered in time for the game against APIA, when the Reds lost again at home.

Yes, No, Yes

Hennessey resigned — no he didn't — the



Terry Hennessey (left) and Peter Ollerton (right).

such veterans as Bugsy Nyskohus, Adrian Santrac, Segio Melta and Charlie Villani.

Those four have played ever since the league started 1977, and, as they showed at Easter, they are still going strong.

Croatia fans turned on a nosy demonstration after seeing their stars humbled by a team that lacked three regular first-teamers like Paul Wilde, Joe Mullen and Neville Flounders.

And, to rub salt into the wound, Herd broke down on his debut that day and doubts now exist whether he was fit when he arrived from Scotland.

Last Wednesday night's pathetic performance against Heidelberg in the quarter-final of the Beach Fashion Cup, as Croatia went down 5-0 to

committee accepted his resignation — no it didn't — it was all nonsense.

Ollerton took over for the Cup match because Hennessey was in Shepparton on business.

Ollerton has been appointed coach — no he hasn't — Hennessey has withdrawn his resignation — 'they'll have to sack me', he said from Shepparton.

"I think Terry has had enough and needs to quit Soccer for a while," said President Jack Skobljic.

Football's a funny game, but there aren't too many Melbourne Croatia fans walking around laughing at the moment.

At least the 1-0 win over Marconi at Bossley Park provided some light at the end of the tunnel for the side being handled by Ollerton.



THE good ol' days for OSCAR CRINO as he challenges a Red Star Belgrade striker during Australia's 1985 win in Sydney.



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LOU WANTS NSL BERTH IN 1987

BY TOM MCKAIN

BRILLIANT Youth Soccer midfielder Lou Hristodoulou has made it public that he will look for another club if Adelaide Hellas do not get into the West End National League next year.

He was wanted by Sydney Olympic and South Melbourne this season, but studies at university and a plea from Hellas persuaded him to remain in SA where he has hit top form and was named captain when Nick Mousoulos suffered a broken ankle.

Most of the cash came from the sale of Rowley Park, a former speedway venue which had been planned as a sports complex but fell through following poor soil tests.

While the Federation will own the hotel, it will be run by the licensee.

"We see the property as an investment for the future, and a way of providing income for the benefit of Soccer," said SA Soccer Federation president, Mr Alex Cichanowski.

The Federation will use the hotel for several functions during the year, and it is expected the next NSL meeting will be held at the Tavern.

A player from Scotland is on his way to Adelaide as a migrant.

Complete with relations and a job, plus a free clearance, there could be a scramble for his signature.

Adelaide City is believed to have been contacted about giving him a trial, and to have agreed to meet him — but they have refused to confirm or deny the story.

The SA Soccer Federation has hit the booze — but not in the literal sense.

It has invested \$2 million in a revamped Adelaide hotel — the Wakefield Tavern.

VICTORIAN INDUSTRIAL LEAGUE

MEKO, by 10-0 against Essendon Tramways, maintained their dominance of First Division, but North Dandenong Sparrows (2-1 over Montrose Black Gully), despite their third successive win, lost top spot on goal difference to the higher flying Flamingo, who crushed St Bernards Old Collegians 6-0.

Northern Cross/St Helena stumbled against Garden City (1-1), allowing Oakleigh City to seize top spot after their decisive 3-1 dethronement of Keely Kings.

Dallas United remain firmly in control of Division 3 West, while Dany Dynamo are running at full power at the top of Division 4.

The latter, however, are under challenge from Nippondenso, who "sparked" in their upset win over Anacoters, and now trail the Rumanians by only one point.

Incidentally, how good is the Highpoint defence? In six matches Highpoint has surrendered only 2 goals — both of those today when their first struggled to a 3-2 win over Taxation.

It might be interesting to set it against the Meko high-rollers, whose scoring tally in the same number of matches now stands at 36 (22 firsts, 14 reserves).

We are happy to advise that the coach of this year's League Squad will be Jimmy Kriaris, whose extensive experience in State and National League competition ideally qualifies him for this position.

Team Manager is John Mason, a member of the Management Committee, and Vice-President of Rowville United.

THE NSL Tribunal has ruled that Scott Fraser was correctly a Heidelberg United player under the rules when he appeared against Footscray. In consequence Heidelberg retain the points. Footscray however are considering an appeal.

QUEENSLAND Soccer Federation officials have still not lost hope of staging their annual interstate clash with New South Wales. The QSF has targeted the three-week NSL break period as the ideal time but may have to take a NSW side devoid of its NSL stars. But they are not complaining. The QSF figures the Blues should still be able to muster a fair side — and besides, Queensland likes winning!

CRAIG JOHNSTON'S chance of playing for Australia is rather slim — even more so than revealed by us last week. One letout would be if he failed to realise that, in taking British citizenship, he did not appreciate that he was foregoing his right to be an Australian. That hardly applies. To become an Australian again would call for residency in Australia for two of the last five years, one of which would require continuous domicile in this country. And that is very difficult for an English professional footballer to achieve. It would not be easy also for the Immigration Minister to exercise discretion in Johnston's case, much as it would be to Australia's World Cup advantage.

EVERTON decided against adding a Sydney match to their itinerary and will rely on matches in Christchurch, Auckland and Brisbane for tour income in the Pacific. The joy will come with a holiday break on the beaches and hotels and the lush hinterland in Hawaii.

An Early season survey by Queensland Soccer Federation has shown that crowds for its 12-team XXXX League competition are up, on average by 37.5 per cent. The early success of Brisbane City has helped contribute to the return of spectators. The recent Derby between City and former NSLers Brisbane Lions attracted one of the biggest crowds seen in Queensland soccer, outside of representative fixtures, in recent years.

A huge crowd also watched the recent Brisbane-Ipswich intercity clash while the QSF experiment with Monday night football looks to be a winner.

"I always said that when we could decide our own destiny and not be ruled by the NSL, Queensland soccer would thrive," QSF President Ian Brusasco said.

Skilful Launceston City midfielder Steve Morley will miss much of the season after he suffered a broken leg during their clash with Juventus in a League match on April 18.

There are some notable absentees in the Queensland squad currently touring New Zealand from the 16 taken to Fiji in 1985. The squad which shared the honours against the Fijians included Danny Wright, Steve Jackson, Alan Hunter and John Stewart — now all with southern NSL sides.

Kevin Nutter had a disappointing debut after signing with Fairy Meadow-Italia — Italia went down 4-1 to Yugal.

Nutter had been third choice 'keeper with Bulli, and Italia didn't have any senior player to take the job after Mal Parkhurst broke a hand the previous week.

Coach Larry Gaffney was desperate to sign a replacement and wasn't disappointed with Nutter's initial performance.

"He was naturally a bit nervous and playing behind a new defence so he did well under the circumstances," Gaffney said.

It didn't help the newcomer when Yugal got their first goal off a deflection from the head of Italia striker Barney King who went back to help out for a corner.

CHRISTOPHER BAMBRIDGE

Australia's World Cup Whistler



BY GREG BLAKE

NAME: Christopher Francis Bambridge
BIRTHPLACE AND DATE: October 7, 1947 in Croydon Surrey
HEIGHT AND WEIGHT: 5ft. 8 inch/75 kilos
MARRIED: Yes, to Liz.
HOME: Scoresby, Melbourne.
CAR: Celica Coupe.
REFEREE FOR HOW LONG: Since 1971.
OCCUPATION: Office manager.
FAVOURITE PLAYER: Ian Rush.
FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTS: Squash.
FAVOURITE GROUND: Olympic Park, Melbourne.
HOLIDAY RESORT: Merimbula, NSW.
MUSIC: Rock and Roll, because I grew up during that era.
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: My wife, my daughter and the Lord above.

ACTOR/ESS: Goldie Hawn/Christopher Lee.
MOVIE: Butterflies are free.
TV SHOW: Fawty Towers and Monty Python's Flying Circus.
DISH: Roast Beef and Yorkshire Pudding.
DRINK: Scotch and Dry.
LIKES: Music and good company.

DISLIKES: Overbearing people.
INTERNATIONAL GAMES: I've refereed 17 full internationals.
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: The 1985 Under 16 World Cup final in China between West Germany and Nigeria. It was the first time a referee from outside Europe and South America had taken charge of a World Cup final at any level.

BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Not getting to referee more World Cup games.

WORST INJURY: Very few as a referee. I only got them as a player when I wasn't protected by referees!
HARDEST OPPONENT: All of them — every player I referee.

FAVOURITE ALL-TIME PLAYER: Denis Law.
BOOT TYPE: Adidas.
BEST WORLD XI: Shilton (Eng), Batista (Arg), Brown (Arg), Tigana (Fr), Breigel (WG), Belanov (USSR), Maradona (Arg), Platini (Fr), Rush (Wales), Lineker (Eng), Elkjaer (Den).

LONG-TERM AMITIONS: Just to keep enjoying refereeing and to be a referee for as long as possible.

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SYDNEY SUPERSONICS

HENNESSEY MAKES BELATED RETURN

BY JOHN MANGAN

ONLY minutes before the kickoff of this Beach Fashions Cup quarter-final, Melbourne Croatia officials confirmed that coach Terry Hennessey had withdrawn his resignation — but that news was not enough to save the club from a 5-0 drubbing by Heidelberg.

Barely two and a half weeks earlier, Croatia had humiliated Heidelberg at the Olympic Village winning 3-1 on a day when all Hennessey's new signings shone.

But Croatia looked like a different team this time with a lack of drive from the midfield that left Ian Wallace and Paul Lewis stranded up front waiting for their team's all too infrequent forward thrusts.

John Margaritis's Heidelberg side revelled in the space and time they were allowed as the anticipated Croatia fightback failed to materialise.

Claude Lucchesi was having a field-day in the middle for Heidelberg and a deft back-heel from a John Kanesoulis cross found Lawrie McKinna with enough room in the box to blast a shot past Mirko Runje on the half-hour.

Only two minutes later Heidelberg went further in front when Peter Tsolakis met a ball driven into the area by Theo Selemidis.

Tsolakis had a goal disallowed just before half-time when referee Dennis Voutsinas failed to play the advantage. Runje came out of his area to block a shot from John Anastasiadis and handled the ball.

The ball fell to Tsola-

kis who netted it but Voutsinas cancelled the goal and gave Alexander a free-kick outside the box for Runje's handball.

Anastasiadis broke through again in the 66th minute again forcing Runje to race out of his goal to thwart the attack. Runje deflected Anastasiadis's shot but unfortunately for the keeper the ball rebounded into the path of the Heidelberg forward who put the ball into the empty goal.

Croatia rallied and Dave McIntosh was unlucky when his header from a Josip Biskic corner in the 78th minute hit the top of the crossbar.

A minute later Tsolakis took a free-kick from the left side which McKinna headed past Runje.

Three minutes from time Heidelberg completed the damage when Tsolakis received the ball from Kanesoulis and chipped Runje to make it 5-0 for Margaritis's team.

HEIDELBERG: Oliver, Marley, Hunter, Fraser, Katsakidis, Lucchesi, Selemidis, Anastasiadis, Kanesoulis, McKinna, Tsolakis.

MELBOURNE CROATIA: Runje, Hannah, Davidson, McIntosh, Heys, Biskic (Humble 70th), Dunn, Campbell, Valentic (Milosevic h.t.), Wallace, Lewis.

Referee: Dennis Voutsinas.

Crowd: about 900.



FORMER Soccerroo skipper JOHNNY WARREN continues his exclusive and revealing front page story on the controversial AIS affair of the past month... and he pulls no punches!

It was a formality to go for the interview — "just don't rock the boat" — which would have been easy in view of the 'Clayton's' interview that took place on February 17 at the AIS.

So it was all fixed, or so we thought.

So, too, did the ASF, as a meeting between the AIS and ASF officials Sir Arthur George and Brian Emery and Paul Brettell (AIS) and Dr Bloomfield (AIS) which took place on November 5 clearly illustrate.

"The President reported to the committee (ASF) of a meeting held in his office with Dr Bloomfield, Paul Brettell and the executive director regarding co-operation between the ASF and the AIS on 5th November, 1986. At this meeting the position of a replacement for Mr Shoulder was discussed. Mr Warren was considered suitable if he applied, however if he could not devote his full time to the position because of other activities then the ASF would support the existing assistant Mr Smith for the position" ... source ASF minutes March 23, 1987.

This arrangement was confirmed to me three days before the 'Claytons' interview by Australian Sports Commission officials who told me the job was mine and that "everything was fixed up".

It was thus obvious from the ASF/AIS meetings, those of the Australian Sports Commission and my talks with the Federal Government that the only way Emery/Worthington were going to get their way was to prove that I would not give up my other commitments.

On this point, I love the way people talk about my other commitments as though I were a mini Holmes a'Court or Alan Bond.

TIM WHITE continues from page three...

the game in Australia, works very well at its best. For proof we need look no further than Liverpool, Notts Forest and Aston Villa, who won the European Cup between them for six years in successions.

Some did not like their style, but style is largely a matter of taste and instinct.

British Soccer prefers old ideas that come in new wrappings but I have yet to see a major British club using a sweeper system.

Practically every team in Australia uses a sweeper or libero system which contrasts with the tire-some claims concerning the influence of the "Pommie Mafia."

Reflecting on the thought of style being a matter of taste and instinct one remembers the enormous and often vitriolic criticism of the way Watford played in their climb from the English fourth division to runners-up in the first division.

The long ball was the basis of their game and quick constant pressure was their object. It is not a style I would use by choice nor would I like to see every team using it. It is not a method, either, that

should be imposed on youngsters who are still learning the game.

But in our National League for example, there is room and a need for individual styles.

We really should be grateful to Watford's manager Graham Taylor for trying something different. It's variety that gives Soccer its appeal.

Those people who do not like Watford's style should do their best to find ways of proving it wrong. That is the best criticism of all.

Wolves under Stan Cullis used the long pressure game 30 years before Watford did. Elaboration was a capital offence to them. They destroyed bad defenders but then, in the European Cup, they met Barcelona who had good defenders.

The Spanish side swallowed the long balls and spanked Wolves to the tune of four goals in Spain and five in England. Wolves' percentage game looked poorly.

Charlie Hughes, the FA's assistant director of coaching, is a champion of the long ball. He can produce figures to prove that 80% of goals are the

product of movements involving four passes or less.

Many British sides spend 90% of their time thumping the ball high into the opposition's penalty area and so, inevitably, most of their goals come this way. Statistics like this can prove anything and nothing.

However, one must remember that the long pass can be devastatingly effective and all the best sides in the world use the technique, but only when the moment is right and only as a single part or their armoury.

By Choice

It is no coincidence that while the Brazilians, Dutch, Italians, Germans and Hungarians all have different methods and tempos they still, by choice keep the ball on the ground.

It has been the same with the finest post war teams in England Spurs' double side. Liverpool in the 1960's and again in recent years. Leeds in their later period under Don Revie, the basis of their game was controlled possession.

Cullis's Wolves have been the only long ball

His letter of the 18th February merely mentions that it was he and Worthington who decided...

Dear Paul

Subject: Appointment of Head Coach

This is to confirm that the Australian Soccer Federation Coaching Director, Mr Eric Worthington and myself endorse the nomination of the Australian Institute of Sport to appoint Mr Ron Smith as the Head Coach.

Having been involved with the interviews we are fully aware of the three (3) applicants record and thoroughly endorse the appointment of Mr Ron Smith.

Yours sincerely

**BRIAN EMERY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AUSTRALIAN SOCCER FEDERATION**

Then really on the defensive, Emery reports to the ASF on March 20 in amazingly detailed terms...

The President reported to the committee of a meeting held in his office with Dr Bloomfield, Paul Brettell and the Executive Director regarding co-operation between the Australian Soccer Federation and the Australian Institute of Sport on 5th November 1986. At this meeting the position of a replacement for Mr Shoulder was discussed. Mr Warren was considered suitable if he applied, however if he could not devote his full time to the position because of other activities then the Australian Soccer Federation would support the existing assistant Mr Smith for the position.

Most of the above I say is totally untrue — Sydney Morning Herald, 2CC, Australian Soccer Weekly, James Hardie, Lotto, Nestles, Commonwealth Bank were never mentioned.

I believe Emery has turned what was said in all other areas.

It is also interesting to note the lengths Emery devotes to me and ignores Alan Vest, the other applicant.

And the length devoted to a minor matter like the AIS as compared with the "Johnson(sic)" case is incredible.

Finally and unbelievable as it may seem, Emery then adds to his apparent confusion and conflicting track-covering exercise by approaching me at St George Stadium a week after the affair and in the presence of three of our leading coaches.

"Mate, why didn't you tell us (the ASF) about the Federal Government's involvement and that the Minister had been talking to you — everything would have been different, mate", he said.

In summary, good luck to the AIS — I have no beef with them or for that matter Ron Smith.

My interest and involvement was solely through the initiatives of the Federal Government.

But to Brian Emery, make up your mind, "mate". I hope you handle more important Australian Soccer matters a deal better than you have in this case.



Watford manager Graham Taylor.

winners of note since the war. They believed in their method and they were good, but their way was never championed as the only way.

One is influenced by many people in the game, as I have been by the staff of the FIFA courses I have attended. Coaches I have worked with including Eric Worthington, State Directors, National Coaches Jimmy Shouder, Rale Rsic, Frank Arok, Les Scheinflug,

National League coaches Len McKendry, Eddie Thompson, John Gardiner, John Margaritis etc and of course the many players I have had the pleasure to coach and in some cases helped to develop.

At the end of the day it is my conception of all those influences and, indeed the game itself, which is going to decide my philosophy on the game and everybody surely must have a philosophy on the game.

ASW AT NEWSAGENTS

REPORTS are constantly being received that newsagents have insufficient copes of ASW to satisfy demand.

If you find that supplies have run out, would you please ask the newsagent to contact his distributor to increase the order.

Your assistance will mean that ASW is readily available in future.

DON'T MISS THE BIG GRUDGE MATCH at the Croatian Sports Centre on Wednesday night, kick-off 6pm. SBS TV dared to challenge The Rest of the Media... be there for the fireworks prior to the Marconi-Sunshine Cup clash!

NSW SECOND DIVISION.

Due to a technical fault this week, our NSW Second Division cover and tables have been postponed to next week.

We look forward to including our enhanced match story cover.



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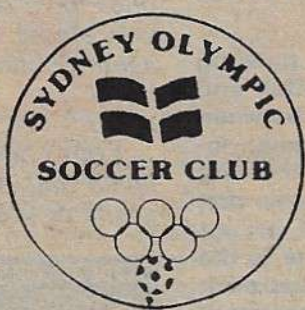


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EARLY MATCH AT 6.00PM SBS TV v THE REST OF THE MEDIA

SYDNEY OLYMPIC v MARCONI



at the
ST GEORGE STADIUM

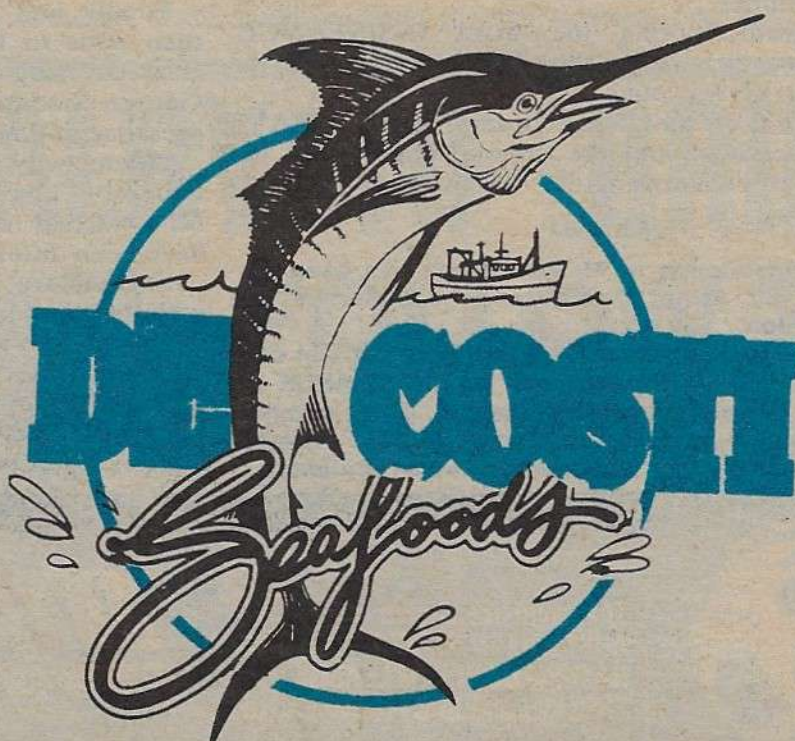
SUNDAY MAY 17

KICK-OFF 2.30PM

YOUTH LEAGUE 12.15PM



JOHN KOSMINA (Sydney Olympic)



PAUL CARTER (Marconi).

F.A. CUP FINAL LIVE

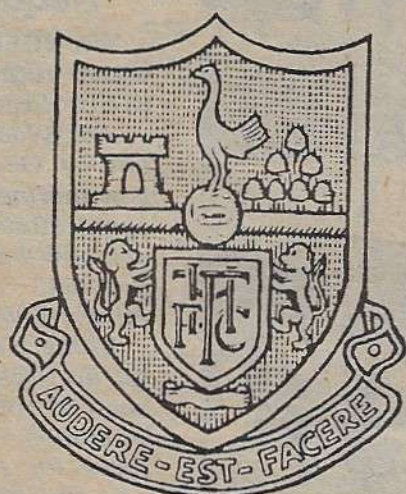


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ABC-TV

OUR STANDARDS ARE OK BUT WHAT WE NEED

WHAT has happened to the crowds in the Melbourne? What ever happened to Western Australia, Newcastle, Illawarra, the ACT or Tasmania?

Are these two subjects related?

Possibly, possibly not, but I need to talk about them today.

As I read through the National League results over the weekend of May 2/3 I was shocked to see only 900 people at the Melbourne Croatia game versus APIA.

Then just 3000 for the top game between Juventus and South Melbourne.

Crowds for the big South Melbourne club have been low for the past three years.

Nevertheless, this article will not be one of gloom, despite the preamble.

I do not believe in gloom, nor in playing a part in spreading it.

I believe in Soccer. I believe in Soccer in this country.

Back to the crowds.

Last year, when Melbourne teams were often playing other Melbourne teams in a diluted north and south division national league the crowds were low.

One of the reasons the crowds were low was because the standard of play dropped with the change of National League format.

The other reason the crowds dropped was because that is the tendency in spectator sports all over the world.

Sponsorship has filled the money gap caused by the falling gates.

Action Needed

So what can be done to try to hang on to the crowds we have in the face of a falling attendances?

We have to present the very best product we possibly can, which means the best possible National League we can organise.

Two, we must lure Soccer spectators from beyond the limited Yugoslav, Greek and Italian communities who now comprise almost all of our top teams.

Hence the original question: what ever happened to West Australia, Newcastle, Illawarra, ACT or Tasmania.

In those communities are multi-racial Soccer spectators who will go to watch a high standard

team playing in a high standard competition.

What an unusual situation to have a Soccer league called the "West End National Soccer League" (???) which has teams only from Sydney and Melbourne, except one.

In the same newspaper that I read of the Melbourne Croatia 0-1 loss to APIA in front of 900 people were the results of the national basketball league.

Hobart v Geelong, Perth v North Melbourne, Brisbane v East Melbourne, Newcastle v West Sydney, Illawarra v Canberra, North Melbourne v Adelaide West End.

Adelaide West End! That takes me back to 1977 when the first Soccer National League was founded.

I went down from Sydney to coach West Adelaide in a league that represented teams from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide and Canberra.

The weakness even then, however, was no team from Illawarra, Newcastle, Perth or Hobart. Still these could be included later on.

At West Adelaide we had crowds of 10,000. South Melbourne was drawing 16,000.

But, as was almost inevitable after the initial boom months, the crowds began to drop, the thoughts were not to extend the league to make it more national but to cut it back... "split it in two"... "east and west"... "north and south..."

Came the changes year on year.

Brightening Up

Still, the West End League is an improvement on what was last year.

The game was better. Indeed they are usually good, sometimes very good.

I watch them on television and am not embarrassed by them as once I was in my early years in Australia. Though how can we have a 4.30 pm time slot when we need spectators?

The standard of Soccer has improved amazingly in Australia since the so

called "boom times" of the 60's.

This boom time is supposed to have occurred between the 50's and 1964. "Boom" means spectator boom, not in my opinion, playing standard boom.

I arrived in Australia in 1963 and played in a grand final for the Wollongong team, South Coast United that year against APIA in front of over 30,000 people with several thousand locked outside the Sydney Sports Ground.

During that season we trained Tuesday and

The rest had played lower division and non-league Soccer in Britain.

There were only two Aussies in the team, Dennis Patterson and Barry Salisbury.

The following year, 1964, Everton toured Australia and walloped our national team 8-2 in Melbourne.

Apart from a spell back in England at the end of 60's, I have been playing and coaching professional Soccer in the country to the present time.

During that period the progress of Soccer in this

National League in the last decade.

Nevertheless it is far better than many people give it credit, especially the media who have chosen league and rules to use as a sales vehicle, whilst diminishing other sports, especially Soccer.

Many people in Soccer assume that the current lowish crowds are a reflection on the standard of our professional Soccer.

This is not the case. Just as it is not the case in the inter-State Sheffield Shield competition, where top cricket is play-

The big thing nowadays is to hold on the people we have, whilst trying to boost attendance with top playing performance and innovative advertising — not marching bands, marching Soccer kids or marching girls.

The product has got to be of an acceptable standard.

I believe our Soccer now is of an acceptable standard and will become even more so as we consolidate our national league and let it represent the whole of Australia.



SYDNEY OLYMPIC supporters out in force.

Thursday using plastic balls.

Friday was an optional session. Usually a talk. Some might do a few sprints or light jogging.

We beat APIA 4-0 with a team rated among the top three or four in the country.

We were not as good as the top teams of today.

Sure, some of us "HAD" played 1st division Soccer in England.

country has been enormous.

Right now we have a national team, made up of home grown players, able to match the ability of Scotland in top level World Cup competition.

Mess Up

Of course, we cannot pretend that our domestic Soccer can yet match that of Scotland.

How could it with all the messing about of our

ed in front of scanty crowd.

The improvement is our Soccer has coincided with a gradual fall-off in crowds at spectator sports the world over.

We all know the reasons for the fall off: the main one is the proliferation of new and old leisure time pursuits for individuals and families.

These pursuits are all made more available with the increase in personal wealth and the advent of the motor car.

Soccer authorities say we cannot afford the air fares to Perth or Hobart.

Neither can we give Newcastle, Brisbane, Canberra and Wollongong special immunity from relegation.

Well, the basketball people are travelling to Perth.

And Illawarra, Brisbane and the rest of them do not need special immunity from relegation.

They just do not need to be kicked out all in one season.



BY MIKE JOHNSON

Ex First Division English footballer. Well known coach and author of Soccer Skills.

There are only so many Greek, Italian and Yugoslav Soccer spectators in this country, many of whom go to watch their minor local teams anyway.

The support for Soccer does not have to rest on their shoulders alone in our National League set up.

Requirement

We NEED to have the other regional capitals in our National League.

As Sydney City died and St George Budapest is withering because of its aging ethnic support, we are now having the same problem affecting our other ethnic groups.

In the National League set up, ethnic teams may need to combine in some situations, allowing room for regional teams who can most easily give us substantial multinational crowd support.

But in the meantime we have what we have.

We need to boost it up, not put it down.

I currently have a team of under 14's at St George who are so far superior in skill to a similar age team I coached there some 10 years ago.

To repeat: our Soccer has improved out of sight.

What we need is our top clubs to reflect this in the way of stadiums, playing surfaces, professional advertising, and expert professional management.

We need to have some great professional Soccer clubs in this country.

Three years ago I rang up Kerry Packer to get him involved in Soccer. He said, he was committed elsewhere.

Why does not someone in real authority in Soccer in this country ring up a major entrepreneur or entrepreneurs and convince them to pay money into our Soccer and help make it great.

INTERSTATE RIVALRY TO BRIDGE THE GAP FOLLOW THE EXAMPLES

INTER state games in aussie rules, rugby league and rugby union are an important part of their calendars.

There has been talk of resurrecting more interstate games for Soccer, and at face value it makes sense, particularly for states with no NSL representation.

For the States with most of the NSL teams, NSW and Victoria, the programme is so tight. With more national team

BY ALAN VEST
NSW DIRECTOR
OF COACHING

games than ever before, it makes things difficult.

However if the NSL through National commitments have breaks in



their programme, interstate games could bridge the gap.

Queensland is a State with no present NSL representation, and so it is getting a bigger state team programme. This

seems a logical move for them to give their players and public top Soccer.

I was in a similar situation in Western Australia in 1975, when our yearly programme included games against Glasgow

Rangers, Manchester Utd, Middlesbrough, Toronto Metro Croatia and Australia B as well as a 10 nation tournament in Indonesia.

These games certainly stimulated interest in the

West. Interstate rivalry might be the answer if these other codes' crowds are any guide.

Also it would certainly be beneficial in bringing the rest of the States into closer contact.

MILOVANOVIC LOOKS TO FIJIAN CHEETHA VOSUGA

BRISBANE XXXX League club Olympic United looks to be on a winner with its new Fijian import Cheetha Vosuga.

The Fijian midfielder has starred in his matches so far for the struggling Goodwin Park side and could transform them into top four contenders.

Vosuga was signed after the recent Fiji National team tour of Queensland. He has explosive speed, a pinpoint pass and shoots from anywhere. The latter trait is certain to reap him many goals in the Brisbane competition this season and already he has caught a number of keepers by surprise. Only the Woodwork has denied him early goals.

But Cheetha broke through for his first goal for his new club when he netted in Olympic's emphatic 5-0 thrashing of Taringa Rovers recently. Cheetha used his deft turn of pace to outstrip the flat Taringa defence and coolly round their keeper Peter Speare to score.

"Cheetha is going to prove a valuable player for us, although the secret will be not relying on him too much. His benefit will be coming forward from the midfield," Olympic United player-coach Mike Milovanovic said.

Milovanovic, the former Australian youth, Canberra City and Brisbane City player has

done a tremendous job since taking over the reins at Olympic.

Although the side struggled early in the competition the return of several injured key players and a more dedicated attitude has turned the side into one of the darkhorses of the competition.

But the XXXX League is going from strength to strength and the local Brisbane competition is the strongest in years. No game looms as an easy match and it seems certain the championship will go to the wire.

Although Brisbane Lions were hot pre-season favorites, their recent defeat at the hands of Ipswich United has thrown the league wide open.

North Star fancy themselves, too, in the competition and to gain a place in the NSL while Easts and Mount Gravatt have been quiet, but successful performers.

At the other end of the table the only team to regularly struggle has been newly promoted Redlands. But club president Dick Karreman is preparing to look overseas for some big money signings to ensure his team avoid the drop back into second division.



MIKE MILOVANOVIC... Olympic on a winner.

IRISH EYES — THEY AREN'T SMILING

BRISBANE City's Irish import, Kieran Cooper, is being forced away from the club by its fans. He has admitted he is beginning to consider a move south.

The Irishman, who had a brilliant season last year, has struggled to find form this season — and the fickle Azzurri fans have shown little patience.

Cooper was jeered from the field recently when Lions beat City 3-0 in an emotion-charged derby — the first since both were axed from the NSL.

"I have never been booed off a field before. It doesn't make you feel very welcome," said a disheartened Cooper after the match.

Cooper revealed that he had received offers to go south at the end of last season, but had dismissed them because at the

time he was very happy at Brisbane City. But now he has conceded he is not sure how much he can take from the club's supporters.

"The fans are only looking from the sidelines. They don't understand what is happening on the field. I am trying my hardest but often I am up there on my own. I am not a target man," he said.

Cooper admitted he had been stunned by his omission from the State squad to tour New Zealand but vowed to regain his Maroon shirt.

"It was something I was looking forward to for a year, so it was a bit of a shock to find out a week before that I wasn't going," he said.

Cooper has no explanations for his lack of goalscoring form. He has just finished a stint with his Irish club Bray Wanderers where he finished leading scoring with seven goals — despite missing the last four games.

And he rejects the suggestion that four back-to-back seasons in Ireland and Australian have left him jaded.

"I don't feel tired but when I came back here there was a lot more pressure. I felt everyone was expecting me to save Brisbane City," he said.

At his best, Cooper could well be the club's saviour. But at the moment it seems the fans are intent on crucifying him.

This weekend's matches see the return of the state squad players, currently on tour in New Zealand. That will be the case for everyone but Redlands and Mount Gravatt, whose Saturday fixture is two hours before the Maroons return — ruling out the Hawks' Marty Kirsopp and Redlands' player-coach Steve Perry.

The other fixtures for this weekend are: Saturday: Grange Thistle v Taringa, Lanham Park, 6pm; Sunday: Olympic United v Rochedale, Goodwin Park, 2.45pm; Ipswich United v Coalstars, Ebbw Vale, 2.45pm; Azzurri v North Star, Spencer Park, 2.45pm; Monday: Lions v Easts, Perry Park, 8.30pm.

OPEN SLATHER ON IMPORTS

LIONS READY TO DEVOUR

BRISBANE Lions are hoping to gain the jump on their southern rivals following the partial lifting of the visa player restrictions on New Zealand players.

The former National League club has eight players currently on tour with Queensland in New Zealand and have instructed them to be on the lookout for potential NSL talent.

The club even has instructed its captain, and Maroons captain, Frank Liddell, to conduct play-

er negotiations if he sees anyone outstanding.

Lions are eager to bolster their squad to ensure they win the Queensland XXXX League and the NSL promotion play-off series at the end of the year.

The club already has the maximum three visa players in Liddell, Jim Morton and Davey Richardson and the latest clarification of the rules in relation to New Zealand players is right up their alley.

The state secretaries meeting last week clarified an earlier ASF resolution in relation to Kiwis Soccer stars.

Only those players who have been named in a national squad at under 16, youth or full level will come under the affect of the ASF maximum three visa player rules. It will

STEVE PERRY FILLED THE BILL FOR NEW ZEALAND TOURISTS

FORMER Socceroo fullback Steve Perry has come from the representative wilderness to be chosen as a key player in the Queensland squad which is contesting the South Pacific Cup tournament in Auckland this week.

Perry, 33, was chosen by Maroons coach Bruce Stowell to play sweeper in his 15-man squad. Stowell was forced to look for a specialist defender when he opted to play Russell Stewart in midfield to cover the gap caused by the transfer of his brother John to West End NSL club Preston.

Although he played for Australia 25 times, Perry has been selected for Queensland only 10 times and his latest call-up is the first time he has worn the Maroon since he transferred from Brisbane City to Redlands in 1985.

Although Perry returned from a short stint at City last year, he was coaxed back to Redlands this season to take up a player-coaching job with the new XXXX League team.

"It's nice to come out of the wilderness again," Perry said.

"I thought I was playing well enough but didn't really think Bruce Stowell was looking at me. I thought he might have gone for someone younger."

Perry's inclusion was the only real surprise in the touring squad. As expected, the 15-man squad was dominated by Lions players, with Richlands gaining eight berths.

In New Zealand

The Queensland squad is: Frank Liddell (c), Rob Farrow, Alan Niven, Richard Basingthwaite, Russell Stewart, John Ogden, Brett Druery, Jim Morton (Lions), Dave Wheeler, Mark Brusas-



STEVE PERRY... Queensland cap.

co (Coalstars), Dave Gallagher (North Star), Steve Perry (Redlands), Frank Mengotti (Azzurri Brisbane City), Martin Kirsopp (Mt Gravatt), Mark Gilbert (Taringa R).

The squad is largely that which played the recent two test series against Fiji, winning the first match 3-1 and drawing 1-1 in the second game when it was abandoned.

The only player added to the squad who did not play against Fiji, other than Perry, is Coalstars striker Dave Wheeler.

Wheeler was selected ahead of out-of-form Brisbane City Irish import, Kieran Cooper.

Cooper, who scored the winner for the Maroons against NSW last year, has struggled to find the net and had a poor match in the inter-city match between Brisbane and Ipswich, which was the final selection trial.

Wheeler, on the other hand, netted two goals

and his club combination with Brusasco possibly swung selection his way.

He also went well when he toured with Queensland to Fiji in 1985.

Although Stowell's squad is undoubtedly the strongest he could have possibly selected, some leading XXXX League coaches chose to criticise its make-up, suggesting more youth could be added.

Stowell reacted angrily and defended his team. Queensland is pitted against Auckland, which has nine Kiwi all whites in its squad. Tahiti and New Caledonia.

"When you are playing the best our region has to offer, you must have experienced players in the squad as well," he said.

"The average age of the 15 players is 25. I don't regard that as old. But having my squad criticised doesn't worry me because I know the easiest game of all is sitting outside and offering criticism."

XXXX LEAGUE TABLE (after six rounds)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Easts	6	5	1	-	14	5	11
North Star	6	5	1	-	14	5	11
Lions	6	5	-	1	20	5	10
Azzurri BC	6	4	1	1	15	7	9
Mt Gravatt	6	3	1	2	16	12	7
Ipswich Utd	6	2	2	2	10	7	6
Coalstars	6	1	2	3	8	6	4
Taringa R.	6	2	-	4	7	14	4
Rochedale	6	1	2	2	10	18	4
Olympic Utd	6	1	1	4	7	13	3
Grange Thistle	6	-	2	4	2	9	2
Redlands Utd	6	-	1	5	5	24	1

FA CUP

The likely line-ups are:

TOTTENHAM: Clemence, Hughton, Mabbutt, Gough, M.Thomas, Hodge, Hoddle, P.Allen, Claesen, C.Allen, Waddle. Subs: G.Stevens, Ardiles. COVENTRY: Ogrizovic, Gynn, Downs, Kilcline, Peake, McGrath, Bennett, Phillips, Regis, Houchen, Pickering.



GREG RUSSELL covers the Queensland scene

AD CITY SEARCHING FOR REINFORCEMENTS

BY TOM MCKAIN

WHILE most clubs are bemoaning the three-week break in the West End National League next month, Adelaide City is delighted.

It will give its shoe-string squad time to recharge, as several of its players are carrying injuries into every game.

And coach Zoran Matic also wants time to scout for more talent, as his recent efforts to sign new blood have failed.

Dean Milosevic quit when he could not be guaranteed a place in the

NSL squad as he was not happy with having to wait his chance playing for the reserves in the State League Second Division.

Matic thought he had sealed Youth Socceroo John Koch, but AIS coach Ron Smith said the lad would be better to remain in Canberra and, beside, he was short of players.

Other local players wanted to walk into the NSL line-up, and the position is still the same.

Fortunately Andy Tolland and Lemmy Vatsilas have stuck it out as has another newcomer in Tim Mullen, all of whom have been given chances in the senior side.

Search

"We are still looking for at least three players," said Matic.

"Perhaps in the break we will have time to scout around and negotiate.

"But we are not looking for guest players. We have written off Tony Dorigo from Aston Villa, as he would have been too expensive, and the same goes for Andy Gray, but we do want more blood.

"Where it will come from is anyone's guess at the moment."

On the injury front strikers Joe Mullen and Paul Wilde carry injuries along with captain Buggy Nyskohus.

Mullen's operation knee swells up after



SUCCESS for Adelaide City as BUGSY NYSKOHUS hoists the Cup after taking out the National League last season — things aren't so rosy for Zoran Matic and his charges this time round though.

every game, and Wilde still has to treat a driving muscle with care.

Sweeper Nyskohus, the veteran of the side, has been carrying old scars for the last two seasons, and his "trick" knee is playing up again,

needing treatment every week.

"By the time the break comes we could have more on the treatment table," said Matic.

"The way some teams come at us is getting beyond a joke.

"But perhaps as champions we have to expect the rough stuff."

City has ruled out friendly games, challenge matches or country visits during the break, but players who need a run will be fielded in the Second Division team.

ILLAWARRA INFO

REFEREES SHORTAGE

BY PHIL MURPHY

WARILLA Wanderers' coach Eddie Mullan has predicted a rash of serious injuries later in the Premier League season because of the current shortage of referees.

Mullan said he has no doubt players will suffer because club officials are being called on to run lines and in Second Division actually control games.

"There haven't been many problems so far because there isn't any real pressure on teams or players to win at all costs," Mullen said.

"When points become vital in the race for premiership and to avoid

relegation the ISA could have major problems.

"We can't kid ourselves some coaches and players won't take advantage of the situation."

The association has been having top-level talks with the Referees' Association recently in a bid to solve the shortage.

The referees say they are doing all they can to man as many games as possible and to attract

new members.

There is a strong feeling among the referees the number of teams in the three divisions of Illawarra Soccer is too high.

There are 36 clubs involved with a total of 96 teams and Mullan agrees with the refs — "The ISA can't possibly go on increasing the number of clubs year after year," he said.

"What we need are fewer teams to try for more quality and let the lower clubs play in the Business Houses League if they want to keep going."

Mullen said he doesn't like the idea of one of his players suffering a

broken leg towards the end of the season because an opponent took "a chance" with a club referee or linesman.

"What do you say to the player's wife or mother if this happens when it can be averted with a bit more foresight?"

There is a strong feeling among clubs that the ISA Second Division could be scrapped next year and this is going to make the battle for promotion from this league tougher than ever.

At the moment club officials are refereeing most Second Division games.

Karate Chop

Wollongong Macedonia coach John Frew had every reason to feel confident he can keep his team in a respectable position of the State Bank League after their 1-0 away win over Rockdale.

Frew threw three 17-year-olds in to his top team and they came through with flying colours.

Goalkeeper Tommy Milenkovski, and midfielders Mineo Bonetig and Jeff Allport performed well with Milenkovski outstanding when Rockdale threw everything at him in the last 20 minutes.

State League forwards should heed a warning that even though he is 17 Milenkovski can't be easily rattled.

He will be standing his ground against the toughest striker and it probably has something to do with the fact he is a black belt in karate.

Milenkovski has been involved in karate for four years and says the sport has proved helpful in his Soccer.

"Apart from helping my fitness it has improved my reflexes tremendously and that is important to any goalkeeper," he said.

"I am looking forward to holding my place in first grade and helping the team to do well this season."

Good Thinking!

Illawarra Associa-

tion PR man John Walker had his car stolen recently and says the thieves obviously have good taste.

They took the car while he was playing squash and it was located later the same day in a nearby suburb.

The only things missing were Walker's pass to ISA games and his association badge.

Wing Debut

West-Figtree have made an important signing in Jason Higgs from Unanderra.

The talented young winger quit Unanderra after five games and made his debut for Figtree against Cringila at Crehan Park.

Figtree pulled off an upset 3-0 win and Higgs had a big game in attack.

Coach Luke Robaard is confident his side will now go on to become a real premiership threat but consistency is what Figtree lack.

Until they solve that

problem they won't win anything.

Bid for Brown

There was almost big drama between Wollongong Macedonia and Premier League Club Cringila last week.

It seems Cringila and Illawarra striker Brian Brown was ready to quit Cringila and sign a lucrative contract with the State League club.

Cringila coach Col Owers had last-minute talks with the speedy striker and persuaded him to stay at Crehan Park to the end of the season.

Brown has been with Cringila seven years and Owers regards him as a key player in the club's championship bid.

Macedonia coach John Frew was a disappointed man when he heard Brown wasn't being transferred.

"He would have done a great job for us because we just don't have a player of his type up front," Frew said.

"I think he would have been very effective through the middle with support from Dean Gardiner and Paul Giraldi."

TASMANIA-NORTH

REDS STUMBLER AS HUGHES

BY JOHN TSCHEPPEA

LAUNCESTON Matric travelled to Ulverstone for the 6th Round Honeychurch Premier League match and came away with both points thanks to a Hughes goal in the 65th min.

Both teams played the ball round and prodded and poked for openings in what was to develop into an exciting and nail-biting encounter. But at half time, neither side could find the decisive opening.

The second half continued as a replica of the first.

Lewendon had an early opportunity to put the Students ahead, but his shot from an acute angle rebounded off the post.

Then, with 20 mins. of the half gone, Hughes, playing one of his best games in over six years, volleyed an Oliver cross from 12m to put his side ahead.

Ulverstone were stung into more desperate action and were almost rewarded when Tom Compagne fired in a free-kick, but keeper Swinton dived to push it away when everyone had thought it was in the net.

Matric hung on for their first win since the first game of the season and opened up the title race once again.

White Eagles welcomed the return of their coach, Micky Joss, with an inspiring and devastating 5-1 hammering of Launceston United.

The Eagles blasted in four before half-time and added another after the break while United provided only one reply.

Launceston City and Georgetown fought out a top-of-the-table clash with Moran, for the Town, and Bessell for City finding the net.

Round 6 results:
Juventus (Guest 3, Gullotti, Mies) d Riv. Olympic (R. King, Stewart) 5-2;
Matric (Hughes) d Ulverstone 1-0;
White Eagles (Wadley 2, McNear 2, Rigby) d Launce. United (Graccogna) 5-1;
Burnie (Purton) d Devonport (DiPietro) 1-1;
Georgetown (Moran 2) dw Launc. City (Bessell 2) 2-2.

Ladder (after Rd 6):

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Launc. City	6	5	1	0	23	12	11
Ulverstone	6	5	0	1	20	5	10
Devonport	6	4	1	1	24	6	9
Georgetown	6	4	1	1	15	8	9
Juventus	6	2	1	3	15	15	5
Matric	6	2	1	3	8	11	5
Burnie	6	1	2	3	8	14	4
White Eagles	6	2	0	4	12	20	4
Launc. United	6	0	2	4	6	26	2
Riv. Olympic	6	0	1	5	4	16	1

Launceston City took another step towards fulfilling their premiership aspirations when they accounted for Juventus in their Round 5 home tie.

Both teams played it rough and tough throughout the first half but had no goals to show for their enterpris-

SCORES

ing efforts.

Savill and Ruyschop came close for Juventus; and Bessell's continued good form posed many problems for his opponents.

City opened the scoring midway through the second half — but it was Juve's defender, Hemsley, the scorer — a ball that skimmed off his head for an own goal.

However, Roger Mies pegged the game level when he found plenty of room to attack the goal shortly afterwards.

Stillie restored City's lead with a volley and Farrell drove in the third to give his team a comfortable win.

Meanwhile, the leadership battle at Knight's Road between Ulverstone and Georgetown ended with a win for the State Champions.

McGrory, Mitchell, Howe and Dougan each got on the score card while Moran and new signing, McKenzie, replied for the Town.

Burnie gathered in two valuable away points when they scrambled to a one goal win over Olympic.

Round 5 results:
Burnie (Conside) d Riv. Olympic 1-0;
Ulverstone (McGrory, Mitchell, Howe, Dougan) d Georgetown (Moran, McKenzie) 4-2;
Devonport (DiPietro, Pizzarini, Frame, M. Meldrum, D. Meldrum) d White Eagles (Wadley) 6-1;
Launc. City (Farrell, Stillie, og) d Juventus (Mies) 3-1;
Matric (P. Davis) dw Launc. United (Jalib 2) 2-2.

TASMANIAN NEWS

COACH MYCAK SETTLES FOR AMERICA

BY WALTER PLESS

EUGENE Mycak, 44, the former White Eagles Soccer coach, left Tasmania for the USA last week a bitter and frustrated man after seven years in the State.

Mycak was one of the most highly-qualified coaches ever to come here but never quite fulfilled his potential.

He left in order to seek permanent employment and to continue his coaching career and to find out how far behind he had fallen in regard to the latest overseas coaching ideas and trends.

Mycak has a First Class International Coaching Certificate from Poland but he was at a serious disadvantage when he arrived here in 1980 because he had problems with the English language.

White Eagles was relegated in his first year here but he won the club immediate promotion back to the top flight the following season.

He told me that he had expected to coach White Eagles again this season, after a break of three years, because a number of senior players had indicated to him that they wanted him as coach.

A change of committee at the club had prevented his appointment and this had played a part in his decision to leave.

Mycak said he agreed entirely with the comments made earlier this year by another local coach, Otto Klaus, in regard to clubs appointing unqualified coaches.

Mycak felt it was very important for the game's regional governing bodies to insist that senior club coaches are qualified.

He said that at the present time it appeared as if Tasmanian Soccer did not want or need qualified coaches and that many club committees did not have a clue about Soccer and that they were doing the wrong thing and wasting money.

Mycak, who has a masters degree in physical education, said he was very grateful to the State Education Department, which had employed him as a physical education teacher on a temporary basis at Woodbridge District High and New Town High.

Recognition

It cannot be said that his ability was similarly recognised and appreciated in Soccer circles, something which must have been devastating for a man so passionately in love with the game and with so much to offer.

While coaching White Eagles, he was consistently ignored by the local and interstate coaching fraternity and the administrators of the game.

The ultimate insult came earlier this year when he was invited to attend a Level III coaching course as a candidate.

I knew Mycak for the seven years he spent in the State and he was not one for bragging about his qualifications or for extolling his own virtues.

He was always a quiet, knowledgeable man, with a deep passion for the game of Soccer, and he was modest.

The day he left, he handed me a personal dossier which confirmed his standing in Poland as a well-respected, very experienced and highly-qualified Soccer coach.

He should have been asked to attend that Level III course as an instructor, not a student.

Mycak coached Polish club Zaglebie-Lubin to promotion to the Polish Second Division in 1977-78 and was consequently voted the city of Lubin's most outstanding sporting personality of the year by two popular Soccer publications.

I doubt that there is another coach in this State who can match that sort of achievement.



Australian Capital Territory



SCHOOLBOYS BITTEN

A girls team called the Sharks scared all other opposition out of the water in the year seven and eight indoor Soccer championships at Kambah High School in Canberra.

The Sharks, which contained players from years nine and 10, were allowed to compete against the boys and took the title, beating the Soceroos 3-2 in the final with goals from Fiona Eldridge, Carolina Ivanesevic and Rachelle Higgins.

Matthew Carmichael and Simon Bohm scored for the Soceroos.

In the years nine and 10 final European Tornadoes 4 (Micky Oakley, Sasha Babic, Tuan Anh and Phayrinh Manthogsy) beat Strikers 2 (Andrew Wallace, Philip Rice).

ACT WOMEN

SEIN GETS EQUALISER

CANBERRA City's campaign for the ACT Women's Soccer Association's Elaine Watson Cup faltered when it could only gain one point from its latest two games.

Against Stormbirds it trailed to a Sasha Wainwright goal before coming back to equalise through Airene Sein late in the match.

There was no such escape against Weston Creek where goals from Glenda Hall and Julie Murray gave the champions a 2-0 win.

Wainwright capped a successful day by scoring again in her team's 2-1 win over Belconnen United.

Downer Olympic improved its position on the ladder with two 2-0 wins, over Belconnen and Queanbeyan, while Queanbeyan gained a welcome point when a Sue Capper goal gave it a 1-1 draw with ANU, Karen Wilcox replying.

In the Sarah Briggs Shield for lower division sides CCAE II had its first win of the season, beating Downer Olympic II 5-0 (Jill Finch 2, Jenny Shephard 2 and Jill Pearce) and then drew 1-1 with ANU II.

Wanderers' strikers Kate Dixon, Clare Angel and Grace Palombi saw off Stormbirds II with a 3-0 win, then Stormbirds crashed 3-0 to ANU II, Szuszy Young (2) and Gillian Malcolm scoring.

In other matches in this section, leaders Belconnen United II beat Downer 2-0 and drew 0-0 with Concordia-Canberra, Weston Creek II beat Concordia 3-2, then lost 4-0 to Tuggeranong.

JOHN WALSH RESCUES BELCONNEN UNITED

THE goal, when it came, was worth waiting for. With 89 minutes gone in the ACT Soccer league first division game Belconnen United mounted what was almost certain to be its last attack in an attempt to break the scoreless deadlock with Canberra City Olympians.

United's John Walsh was luring in the penalty area. "Alan Rankine put a good ball," he said afterwards. "I wanted to take it on my chest and then turn, but it was too far to one side so I had to chip it over my head."

The result was as spectacular goal as anyone could wish to see in a season of Soccer as the ball few into the top of the net. "I never saw it," Olympians goalkeeper Steve Darby admitted afterwards.

Until then it seemed that Belconnen, one of the favourites for the title this season, would be going into its third-round match still without a win. Both sides had their chances, but competent

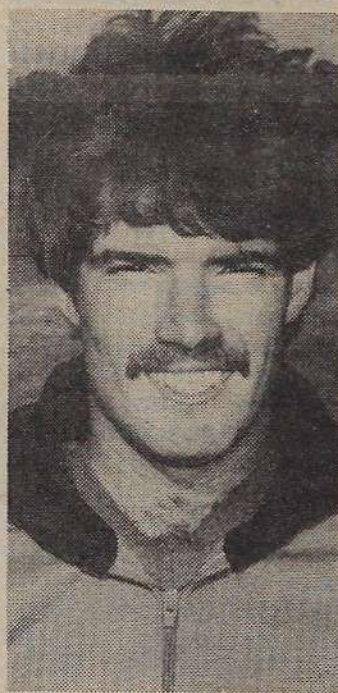
approach work was being spoilt by woeful finishing at each end of the pitch.

In fact it was Olympians who had been last in the pace better and should have taken the lead two minutes previously when James Kanaridis found himself clear through then stumbled, allowing Matt Collins to dispossess him.

Kanaridis had done better from a far more complicated situation just after half time when he weaved through three defenders on the byline only to see his angled shot scrambled away for a corner.

United's best chances came in the first half. First Darby had to move smartly to deflect Michael Wiseman's shot for a corner, then Walsh beat the goalkeeper to the ball only to see his header cleared off the line by a well positioned Norm Holcroft.

Olympians can take some consolation from the performance of Robbie Heidemanns. The former Inter Monaro youth team player seemed to be everywhere on the pitch and his ability to carry the ball forward at speed will cause concern to many opponents as the season wears



JOHN WALSH

on. At Narrabundah Oval Concordia-Canberra came back from two goals down to take a surprise point from Juventus.

Goals from Abdul Mana and Danny Serena seemed to have put Juventus well on the road to victory at half time but Concordia recovered strongly to equalise through Russell Barker and David Jenkins (penalty).

In other first-division matches, league champion Croatia Deakin sent CCAE to the bottom of the table with a 4-1 win and Tuggeranong United came back from its big loss to Juventus the previous week, beating Narrabundah 3-0.

SCOTT GILLIGAN SWITCHES CAMP TO LOTTO ALL STARS

SCOTT Gilligan, a key member of the Sydney Tornados championship winning teams in the first two years of the National Indoor Soccer League, will switch clubs next season.

the year.

"I'm seeking a new challenge and, at the same time, hoping to revive my international career," he said while in Canberra as an official at the Australian schools championships.

"With the Tornados it was getting too easy. You could lose the ball and know there was someone else to help you out."

"I was top scorer for the team in the first season, but last year I slipped behind Glen Jeffery and Steve Knight. With

the All Stars I'll have to work harder and hopefully that will mean I'll really get back among the goals again."

While rival clubs will rejoice at the break-up of the most effective combination in the history of the game in Australia, the Tornados are far from a spent force.

Coach Nick Nicolopoulos has a number of youngsters ready for promotion to the NISL team and Gilligan's departure will give him a chance to experiment.

CANBERRA UNITED MUST BEHAVE

BY GRAHAM COOKE

CANBERRA United will be given one final chance to shake its bad boy image, ACT Soccer Federation president Charles Perkins said.

The second division team has been told that further incidents involving its players or supporters could lead to suspension from the competition, he said.

The ruling, which has the agreement of the ACT Soccer Referees Federation, comes after a Federation Cup tie earlier in the season in which a match official, Carl Thayer, was allegedly assaulted.

The referees placed a ban on games involving United leading to the postponement of the opening league matches against Weston Creek.

"The basic condition for them continuing in the competition is that from now on they conduct their games in an orderly manner," Perkins said.

"We have told them that they must provide three match officials to be identified to the referee before each game, and that a member of the senior league management committee will be in attendance at all their games from now on."



CHARLIE PERKINS

"This is in addition to fines and penalties already imposed upon United as a club, and upon individual players of that club."

"If there is a significant problem involving Canberra United's players or supporters the club will be suspended from the competition."

Perkins made it clear that this was not a special ruling applying to just one club.

"We must at all times protect referees as well as law abiding players and spectators from unruly elements," he said.

"And similar action will be taken against any player or club which causes this kind of problem and brings the game into disrepute."

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS

ACT SENIOR LEAGUE

Division 1: CCAE 1 Croatia Deakin 4, Belconnen United 1 Canberra City Olympians 0, Concordia Canberra 2 Juventus 2, Tuggeranong United 3 Narrabundah 0.

Division 2: Condors 4 Canberra United 6, Weston Creek 1 Canberra City 4.

Division 3: Tuggeranong United 3 Wanderers 1, Cooma 5 ANU 0, CCAE 0 Dickson Old Boys 3.

Division 4: Belwest 5 Belconnen United 3, Shadows 5 ADFA 2, Canberra City 3 Belconnen 3, Tuggeranong United 2 North Canberra Jets 3.

Division 5: Tuggeranong United 10

Wanderers 0, Cooma 2 ANU 0, CCAE 3 Dickson Old Boys 0.

Division 6: Belconnen United 5 Condors 2, Weston Creek 7 ADFA 1, Canberra City 1 Belconnen 2, Tuggeranong United 2 North Canberra Jets 3.

Reserves Division 1: CCAE 2 Croatia Deakin 6, Belconnen United 9 Canberra City Olympians 4, Concordia-Canberra 0 Juventus 0, Tuggeranong United 3 Narrabundah 2.

ACT LEAGUE DIV I RESULTS

Croatia Deakin 2 Tuggeranong Utd 0, Concordia Canberra 3 Canberra City Olympians 2, Juventus 1 Belconnen Utd 2, CCAE 5 Narrabundah 0.

geranong United 3 Narrabundah 2.

Youth Division 2: Belconnen United 2 Monaro 3, ADFA A 5 Woden Valley 1.

CANBERRA CHURCHES

Salvation Army 4 St Margrets 1, Central Belconnen United 1 St Matthews 1, Lions Church of Christ 1 Capital Bible Church 1.

ACT LEAGUE Division 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Croatia Deakin	2	2	0	0	6	2	4
Juventus	2	1	1	0	9	2	3
Concordia-Cberra	2	1	1	0	7	6	3
Canberra City Oly	2	1	0	1	4	3	2
Belconnen United	2	1	0	1	2	2	2
Tuggeranong Utd	2	1	0	1	3	2	2
Narrabundah	2	0	0	2	4	8	0
CCA	2	0	0	2	3	8	0

CANBERRA'S JUVENTUS PLOT FOR HIGHEST 1987 HONOURS

BY GRAHAM COOKE

ALL successful teams face a time when age and departures demand a setting aside of the formula which has worked so well in order to rebuild.

The trick is to minimise the period of adjustment and get back to the top as quickly as possible.

At Juventus Soccer Club in 1987, they appear to have done just that.

Ask president Joe Fusca. He's been at Juventus more years than he cares to remember, yet says he has never been more ex-

cited in the early stages of a season than he has this time round. "The present team is a very solid base for the future," he said.

There were plenty of critics ready to write off the club after the departure of Joe's brother, Tory, as coach at the end of the 1985 season.

Last year it won a single trophy — losing the championship but regaining the Ampol Cup — a failure only when measured against its own high standards.

This season, with Tory Fusca back in control, it has already won the Jim Fraser Shield pre-season competition and began its league program with a 7-0 trouncing of Tuggeranong United.

In fact all four teams — from first grade down to youth second division — opened with victories.

Among the younger players, Joe Fusca believes sweeper John Graham is set to have a fine season while another former junior, Frank Pelle, is likely to be a first-team regular.

And there can be little argument with the form of Frank Madaffari.

The summer signing from Canberra City Olympians scored a second-half hat-trick against Tuggeranong to go with the four scored in the first by long-serving clubman Danny Serena.

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FEHER TO GET SYDNEY UNI ON THE MOVE

By JOHN ECONOMOS

IN the hope of going places, the ambitious Sydney University club has this year appointed Steve Feher, former St George goalkeeper as their coach.

The Uni team, which is currently playing the Inter-Urban Division 1 League, is keen to improve its status.

that this side will later tour New Zealand for matches against the Kiwi students.

The Sydney Uni side

Last year, the club fielded no less than eight teams in the 1st and 2nd Grades in 1st Division Inter-Urban.

The 3rd to 8th grades play in the Protestant Churches Affiliation. Currently, there are more than 100 players with the club.



SYDNEY UNIVERSITY'S TEAM

At the end of last year, 16 members of the team toured the USA, playing no less than eight games against American Uni sides in California, Canada and Hawaii.

The tour was an outstanding success, both on and off the pitch.

Feher told ASW last night:

"This club will go places.

"The skipper, Ian Hastings, who plays at centre-back, has great potential and is a good leader."

Players in the team will be vying for spots in the Australian Universities squad that will travel to Yugoslavia in June for the World Universities Championship. It is also envisaged

is currently in Brisbane for this week's Inter-Varsity Championships.

Last year, these Championships were staged in Sydney and Sydney Uni finished in second spot.

The club was founded in 1932 to encourage and foster amateur Soccer within the Uni.

SILVER JUBILEE FOR LAKEMBA RSL MINIS

LAKEMBA RSL Mini Soccer Association has announced the 25th year of Mini Soccer (under 6's),

which was originally started by Ron Piper and "Old" Sid Cornford 25 years ago.

In that time more than 5,000 boys and girls have enjoyed learning the game of Soccer in the competition and most of these are still getting pleasure out of the game today.

This year there are eight clubs participating with some clubs fielding three teams. There are 190 Under 6 players registered.

Hopefully with sponsorship it is anticipated that on the Presentation Day in August each player will receive a token celebrating the 25 years.

The Lakemba RSC Mini Association is the only one in New South Wales that runs its own Association and are very proud of their achievements over the period.

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RAIN LIMITS PROGRAMME

BY ALISTAIR RUSSELL

DUE to several postponements at the weekend only three matches were completed in the Youth League.

At a soggy St George Stadium leaders Saints were held to a 1-1 draw by Manly. The Seasideers bounced into fourth place and the Saints hung on to the top by a point from APIA.

APIA were on the ropes early in their clash with Melita. However the keeping of Terry Greedy and some bad luck kept Melita pointless as they went down 2-0.

Sydney Olympic moved into third and after just four games have yet to drop a point. They downed Canterbury 3-0 in the Greek Derby at Arlinton.

ST. GEORGE 1 MANLY 1

The match was played under atrocious conditions at St. George Stadium on Friday night with heavy rain falling on an already waterlogged pitch.

Manly opened the scoring as a result of the conditions. A Saints defensive error was pounced upon by John Tomic and his shot from outside the area was deflected past a helpless George Bouhoutsos after 10 minutes.

St. George tried valiantly to get back on level terms but were thwarted by a resolute Manly defence who maintained the status quo until the interval.

The second half was completely dominated by the Saints who laid siege on the Manly penalty area in search of the equaliser.

After 60 minutes Zoran Ilic darted into the box and was fouled. Ilic himself equalised from the spot but further open goal misses from Scott Hughes and Steve Dinoudis cost the Saints the extra point.

ST. GEORGE: Bouhoutsos, Harmat, Talevski, Naumovski, McEnvoy (Sould), Lampropoulos, Ilic, Porter (Morakeas), Hughes, Teleki, Dinoudis.

Best Players: Robert Harmat, Zoran Ilic.

MANLY: Van Leguwen, Reeve, Tomic (Braun), Thomas, Logan, Butler, Ure, Glasscock, Wills, England (Loughran) Wassell.

APIA 2 MELITA 0

Melita looked too good for second placed APIA at Lambert Park on Sunday

but were not able to convert their many chances into goals.

A combination of superb keeping from Terry Greedy, the woodwork and sloppy finishing brought Melita undone.

In the 16th minute Sydney City player Tony Parish dashed down the line after a good build-up from the back. Parish drew his defender and slipped a pass to the unmarked Warren Dalton in the clear. Dalton drew Greedy but his shot hit the post and bounced clear.

Two minutes later Paul McFadden set up Dalton but the striker failed to get in his shot. A minute later Shute put McFadden through but Greedy saved at his feet.

APIA looked rattled by this onslaught but slowly dragged themselves into the game after 39 minutes. Vic Masi put George Koukounaris through a gaping hole in the defence and after clashing with the keeper Koukounaris calmly slotted the ball into the empty net.

Mark Brady had a header cleared off the line and a shot from Masi was superbly saved by Avellino on the stroke of halftime as Apia turned on the pressure.

Apia controlled the second half and went further ahead when sub Sam Zullo got a free on the flank and beat the keeper with his cross from the byline.

It left an open goal for Koukounaris to head home his second.

In the process of scoring the goal Koukounaris was injured and APIA played the remaining 17 minutes with ten men. However Melita's chance had gone. Greedy continued to perform and the Lambert Parkers moved to within a point of the top.

APIA: Greedy, Ancora, Brady (Radice), Bakirtsis, Masi (Zullo), Papoythis, Pettenon, Koukounaris, Speranza, Pisano, Djordjleski.

MELITA: Avellino, Pratt, Shute, Sacilotto, Colro, Dickinson (Bath), Parish, Versi, Dalton, McFadden, Rago (Klinkacovski).

Best Players: Carmine Colro, Darren Pratt, Greg Dickinson.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC 3 (S. Chilas, N. Oustambasidis, A. Zervas.) CANTERBURY 0.

ST. GEORGE 1 (Ilic) MANLY 1 (Tomic).

APIA 2 (Koukounaris 2) MELITA 0.

ST. GEORGE 7 5 2 0 23 5 12
APIA 7 5 1 1 22 3 11
OLYMPIC 4 4 0 0 14 3 8
MANLY 6 3 1 2 12 14 7
CROATIA 4 3 0 1 20 7 6
MARCONI 6 3 0 3 11 11 6
MELITA 6 3 0 3 13 6
SUTHERLAND 4 1 0 3 5 10 2
CANTERBURY 7 1 0 6 4 21 2
URUGUAY 4 0 0 4 2 13 0
WARRINGAH 5 0 0 5 3 25 0

F.A.CUP FINAL AT SAINTS

ST GEORGE BUDAPEST SOCCER CLUB, is organising a special "F.A.CUP FINAL" night next Saturday evening at their social club premises at Mortdale.

The evening kicks-off at 7.30pm with "Fifties" music specialists, the "Bel-Airs" who will provide the entertainment and music for the night.

The "FIFTIES" revival has taken off and live contests will be the feature with special prizes going to the best 'rock n' rollers' of the night.

At 11.30pm, the live telecast will be brought into the St George club and shown on a giant 12'x12' video screen in the Main Auditorium.

Entry for the "F.A. Cup Night" at St George will be FREE.

All supporters are in-

vited along to St George Budapest Soccer, Victoria Avenue, Mortdale, this Saturday evening.

Phone bookings can be made by ringing 579 6843 or 579 6977.

DUNLEAVY REINFORCES ARIS CLUB

FORMER Wollongong City captain Chris Dunleavy is playing Soccer again after a break of three seasons.

Dunleavy turned out with Illawarra Premier League club Aris and helped them hold Port Kembla to a 1-1 draw at Kelly Park.

He had been involved in a serious road accident late in 1984 when driving a Railways vehicle.

YOUTH LEAGUE NORTH

LEADING SCORERS

7 Zoran Ilic (St George), 7 Adrian Kiscato (Croatia), 6 Tony Krslovic (Croatia), 6 Joe Russo (Marconi), 5 Tony Parison (Apia), 5 Lou Dounis (Apia), 5 Steve Klinkacovski (Melita).

NEXT WEEK'S MATCHES SUNDAY MAY 17.

MELITA V. MARCONI 10.45am, MANLY V. APIA CROMER PARK 10.40am, OLYMPIC V. ST. GEORGE ST. GEORGE STADIUM 12.15pm, CROATIA V. WARRINGAH CROATIAN SORTS CENTRE 12.15pm, SUTHERLAND V. URUGUAY COOK PARK 10.40am

RASKO BACK FOR MARCONI MATCH

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

PETER RASKO-POULOS, Sydney Olympic midfielder skipper, will be rushed back into the side by coach Eddie Thomson for next Sunday's clash against Marconi at the St George Stadium.

Thomson, still angry over Olympic's away loss last Sunday to Apia, urgently needs Rasko-

poulos' distribution in the middle of the pitch.

Raskopoulos who missed the Apia clash through suspension will add much need direction to Olympic's midfield against Marconi.

Thomson was not happy after the Apia match and stated:

"I can hardly wait the return of Gary Phillips and Mike Coady to the team".

Coady, is due back from England sometime this week and could even be possibly playing on Sunday if fit enough.

Meanwhile, Marconi coach, Roberto Vieri after losing last two NSL points last Sunday against Melbourne Croatia, will be hoping for no injuries after tomorrow night (Wednesday) Beat Fashions Cup match against Sunshine George Cross.

Vieri has already lost tough tackling midfielder, Craig Mason for the next three weeks with damaged cruciate ligament, but has the reliable Ian Gray back on deck.

Meanwhile, Thomson will be instructing players to "feed" Australia's deadliest finisher John Kosmina, with more ball.

Last Sunday at Lambert Park, Olympic Kosmina only TWICE.

Starving Kosmina, ball-supply is a cardinal sin that has been regularly committed by Olympic all this season.



PETER RASKO-POULOS

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NSW AMATEUR SOCCER FEDERATION



Junior stars get underway

METROPOLITAN CHAMPIONSHIPS OPEN SUNDAY

THE popular inter-association Sydney Branch Metropolitan Championships for under 11 and 12s gets under way on Sunday.

As usual the games are played every second week with the last matches set down by games secretary Bill Cullinan for September.

No less than 14 Associations are involved in the series.

Match times are 10am for under 12, followed by under 11 at 11am.

The kick off times advance by one hour respectively where games are played on the Central Coast.

All Associations are represented in both grades, apart from Illawarra and Manly-Warringah, both of which are involved in under 12 only.

The first round draw and grounds for Sunday May 17 is:

Illawarra v Bankstown at Jenson Park.
Nepean v Southern and Eastern at Coral Sea Park.
Gladesville v Granville at West Guildford Sports Ground.
Manly v St George at Cromer Park.
Central Coast v Sutherland at Solander Park.
Southern Districts v Macarthur at Ponderosa Park.
Canterbury v Blacktown at Mt Druitt Town.

CLUB CHAMPION LEADERS

AFTER nine rounds of the NSW Youth League, APIA juniors are on top of the club championship by nine points.

All four junior teams are in superb form, with the Under 13s and Under 14s leading their competitions, while the Under 15s and Under 16s are both running second.

Juniors secretary Vince Aiello is extremely happy with the results so far and attributes this to the APIA game plan.

"All four junior sides play a European style of Soccer, we don't play the long ball game like England do," he said.

"All our teams play a 4-3-3 system.

"We move the ball around the field from the backs, through the midfield, to the forwards.

"Therefore we have skilful and creative midfielders."

The Under 13s is the number one side in NSW.

They are coached by Joe Mangiapane and have been together since they were Under 10s.

Two weeks ago the Under 13s lost their first match in four years when they fell victim to last-placed Ku-ring-

gai which had not scored a goal all year.

The solitary goal that sunk APIA was scored with only 20 seconds left in the match.

The Under 14s, coached by Tony Raciti, is a new side, having acquired eight players in the off-season.

They have definitely got the potential to succeed but will take time to produce the goods.

The Under 15s, coached by veteran Frank La Macchia, play the most attractive Soccer in the club.

They are a multi-cultural team which plays South American-style Soccer, and therefore has some talented midfielders.

The Under 16s, coached by Robert Gabrielle, is the club's surprise team.

Gabrielle has worked wonders with his team, turning the players into a competitive outfit.

SOCCER'S LOW INJURY RATE

SOMETHING had to come following the professionally documented medical evidence on the horrendous spinal and neck injuries which have occurred with notorious regularity over the years in both Rugby League and Rugby Union.

The position also extends to Australian Rules — but it is not so much played in NSW and Queensland and therefore has not hit the headlines.

Soccer's injury rate does not include serious spinal and neck injuries.

This is abundantly clear from reports from Dr John Yeo and his staff at Sydney's North Shore Hospital, where the spinal unit is located.

But the Rugby League people had to put out a public relations piece, which was designed both to give hints on how to try to avoid serious rugby injuries and no doubt to overcome serious anti-rugby publicity.

St George: L to R: Back: S. Pistilli, S. Shaw, T. Dimamoski, P. Zantiotis, T. Joveski, J. Petrouski, N. Boliantis, A. Bulic, A. Smith (Coach). Front: B. Dunimagloski, A. Antoniou, A. O'Brien, J. Ambelas, D. Turner, I. Cheesman, S. Nicholas, P. Spais.

HUGE ENTRIES FOR STATE CUPS

THE various State Cup competitions are close to overflowing with entries this year.

All branches are involved, with the exception of Northern NSW.

Having only joined the organisation a short while ago, it was not possible to include the North.

However NSW Amateur officials are pleased that, a little way down the track, this important part of NSW will be able to participate, making the Cup an even greater event.

The 1987 entries represent an absolute record for the competition.

Split individually, the entries are: NSW Amateur Cup (seniors) 77 teams, NSW Robertson Cup (under 21) 24 teams, Under 18 State Cup 30 teams, Under 16 State Cup 38 teams and Under 14 State Cup 28 teams.

The opening round begins on May 24, with half the games in the Metropolitan area and the other half in the country.

ADRIATIC YOUTH LEAGUE

ROUND 11 SATURDAY 16TH MAY GROUP A

APIA	v	Marconi	Lambert Park
Blacktown City	v	Sydney Olympic	Gabbie Stad
St George	v	Central Coast	Peakhurst Park
Melita	v	Nepean	Melita Stad.
Illawarra	v	Gladesville	Towradgi Park
Cant/Marrick.	v	Sydney City	Arlington Oval
Sthn Districts	v	Ku-ring-gai	Ernie Smith

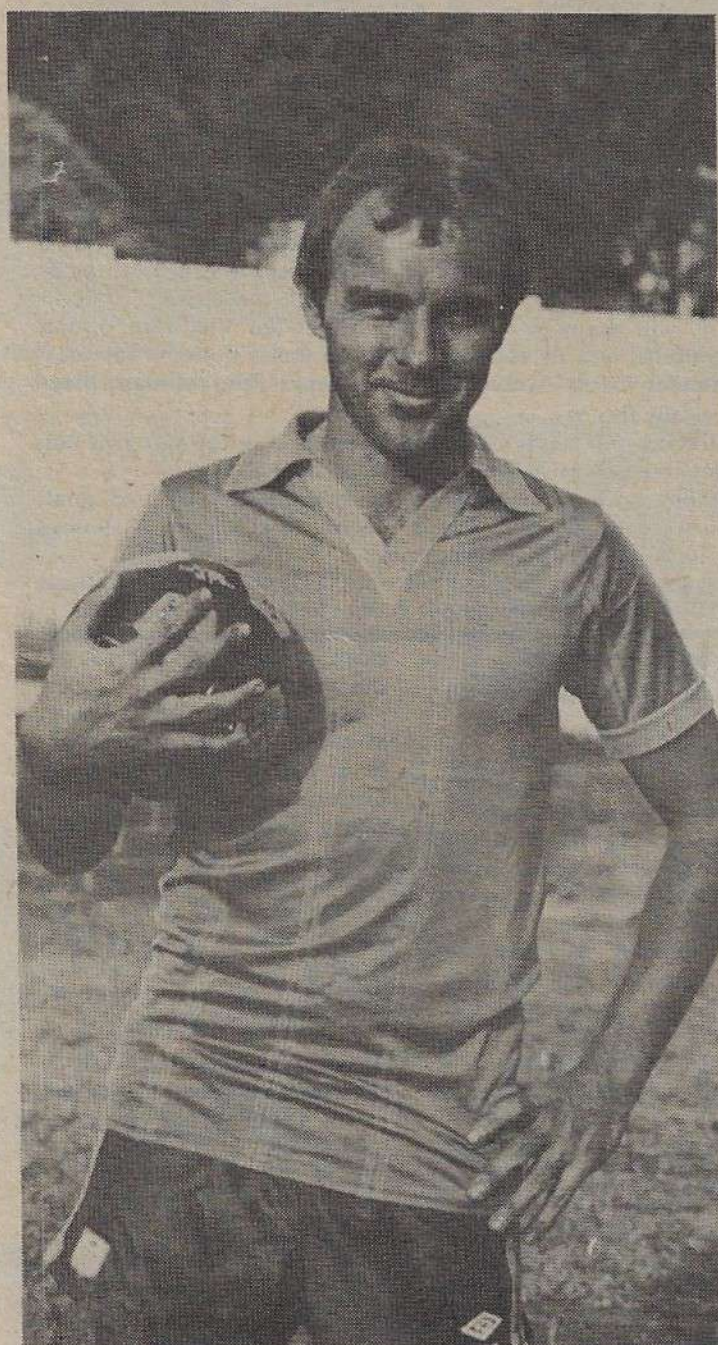
GROUP B

Nth Bankstown	v	Sutherland	Potts Park
Macarthur	v	Manly	Ponderosa Park
Avala	v	C/town City	Knight Park
Polonia	v	Croatia	Chopin Park
Blacktown	v	Uruguay/Aub.	Mt Druitt Tn
Canterbury	v	Bankstown	Blick Oval
Rockdale	v	Yugal	Tempe Res.

NSW Youth League

ROUND 10 SATURDAY 9TH MAY GROUP A

		U13	U14	U15	U16
Marconi	v	St George	3-1	1-2	wash out
Sydney Olympic	v	APIA	wash out		
Ku-ring-gai	v	Blacktown City	1-2	1-2	0-0 0-4
Central Coast	v	Melita	0-1	0-9	0-0 2-0
Nepean	v	Illawarra	wash out		
Gladesville	v	Cant/Marrick	1-2	0-2	1-2 0-1
Sydney City	v	Sthn Districts	2-1	2-5	2-0 2-0
GROUP B					
Sutherland	v	Avala	6-0	4-0	1-5 2-0
Macarthur	v	Nth Bankstown	1-1	3-0	2-1 2-0
Manly	v	Yugal	6-0	2-1	8-0 2-0
C/Town City	v	Croatia	1-6	0-7	0-4 0-12
Blacktown	v	Polonia	0-0	0-2	2-1 4-0
Uruguay/Aub.	v	Canterbury	1-7	0-1	0-1 1-2
Bankstown	v	Rockdale	2-0	2-0	3-0 0-8



PETER HARVEY . . . Melrose Park's ranger.

STALWART PETER HARVEY COACHES MELROSE PARK

BY FRANK FINLAY

NOT many current players can claim that they started to play the game at the foundation of the Albury Wodonga Soccer-Association in 1972.

Peter Harvey, a 29-year-old textile mechanic, is one of them.

Harvey was a spearhead senior defence player for years.

He was appointed player-coach for Albury's Melrose Park Rangers' S.C. for the 1987 season.

He and his senior team won the AWSA League Cup last year — the first time since 1972.

Harvey said: "The challenge for me is tremendous.

"It took me two years to build up a team to win the Cup in 1986.

Now we will see what happens this year."

He has played several positions but he is the pillar of MPR's defence.

He is fast, accurate with his kicking and a powerful mover as well.

His golden rules for players are:

- Must attend training otherwise sit on the bench.
- Discipline.
- No foul language.
- Never argue with the man in the black.
- Soccer is a team game. Individual players will be pulled off.

"I have only pulled out one of my senior players because he argued with the referee ... last week," he said.

Peter is unassuming and a very modest person, but he is thrilled that MPR won the AWSA Cup for the first time last year.

VIEWPOINT FROM HORNSBY HEIGHTS

IT is pleasing to note, when looking down the list of managers and coaches in our club, the number of current players who are also involved in coaching junior teams.

This is most heartening and again highlights the club spirit.

Firstly we have the 8 I's being coached by an U/15 and youth players, Grant Taylor and Craig Vignon.

Then we have All Age players in Neil Thomas, Paul Franklin, Peter Hughes, Martin Francis, Jeff Wicks, Bob Munro, Peter Woolford, Carl Wilson, Dave Phillips, Kevin Wallace, Kevin Inskip and Mark Smith.

NEW SOUTH WALES

STATE BANK SOCCER LEAGUE

	1st	2nd
Newcastle Rosebud v Ku-ring-gai	5-1	0-0
Warringah F/Water v Inter Monaro	0-2	5-0
Canberra City v Manly Warringah	2-0	3-1
Cant. M'ville Oly v Uruguayan Penrith	2-2	5-2
Blacktown City v Rockdale Ilinden	2-0	1-0
Wollongong Macedonia v Melita Eagles	0-3	0-1
Sutherland Shire v Wollongong City	0-4	2-1

STATE LEAGUE SECOND DIVISION

	1st	2nd	3rd
Nth Syd. Artamon v Sydney Maccabi			postponed
Polonia v Dee Why Swans			postponed
Avala v Kingsford	0-2	1-4	0-4
Gladesville Hornsby v Campbelltown City	2-1	0-0	1-2
North Bankstown v Queens Park E/S	1-1	2-0	0-2
Bathurst '75 v SSC Yugal	1-4	0-3	0-1
Fairy Meadow v Blacktown United	1-0	3-4	3-2

STATE LEAGUE THIRD DIVISION

Granville v Moorebank		postponed
Canterbury Dist v Bondi Marine	0-6	0-2
Uni of NSW v Port Hacking	0-2	3-0
Rooty Hill v North Ryde RSL	1-0	4-4
King Tomislav v Mt Druitt Town	0-0	1-0
Campbelltown Gunners v Baulkham Hills	2-3	4-1
West United v Concordia	1-3	3-1

INTER URBAN 1ST DIVISION

	1st	2nd
Dulwich Hill v Hawkesbury Dist		3-2
Eastwood S/A v Padstow Park		1-1
Chelsea v Spanish Club		postponed
Fairfield Kiev v Pagewood Botany		2-6
Rosebery Portuguese v West St George		2-0

INTER URBAN 2ND DIVISION

Maroubra v Womelsport	1-1	0-0
Wentworth v Liverpool City	1-3	0-2
Concord Juniors v Haberfield Peru	3-0	7-1
Macquarie Uni v Greenisland	0-2	3-5
CSI Schofields v Rangers Hajduk	2-2	5-1
Trasandinos Sports Chile Sports	2-0	3-0

INTER URBAN 3RD DIVISION

Lansvale v Macedonia Yag		postponed
Colo Colo v Blacktown Wands	0-2	2-0
Petersham Lusitanos v Castle Hill	1-3	2-1
Lithgow Workmens v Cyprus United	2-0	1-0
Murray Farm Rangers v Abruzzi	0-0	4-1
Crescent Star v Argentinian L/U	1-1	4-1
Macedonia Yagoona v SSC Zagreb	4-0	5-1

INTER URBAN 4TH DIVISION

Mt Pritchard v Hellas	0-0	1-2
Luddenham Croatia v Orange Waratah	1-4	0-7
Cobroloa v Greystanes	0-1	0-4
Alexander v Chullora	9-4	2-1
Liverpool Olympic v Arncliffe RSL	1-1	1-2
Assyrian v Lebanon	0-1	1-0

RESULTS MAY 2/3

(We apologise for omitting these from our last issue).

STATE BANK SOCCER LEAGUE

	1st	2nd
Wollongong City v Newcastle Rosebud	2-1	0-2
Ku-ring-gai v Warringah F/water	3-1	0-2
Inter Monaro v Canberra City		not played
Manly Warringah v Cant. M'ville Oly	3-0	1-0
Uruguayan Penrith v Blacktown City	0-5	0-2
Rockdale Ilinden v Wollongong Mac	0-1	1-1
Melita Eagles v Sutherland Shire	3-1	0-1

STATE LEAGUE SECOND DIVISION

	1st	2nd	3rd
Queens Park v North Syd. Art.	1-0	1-2	14-0
Kingsford Hellenic v Gladesville Hby	2-0	0-1	4-2
Campbelltown City v Nth Bankstown	0-0	1-1	0-1
Sydney Maccabi v Polonia	1-6	0-2	0-4
Dee Why Swans v Bathurst '75	0-1	4-2	2-0
SSC Yugal v Fairy Meadow	4-1	5-1	2-1
Blacktown Utd v Avala	2-0	0-3	0-2

STATE LEAGUE THIRD DIVISION

	1st	2nd	3rd
Mt Druitt Town v Campbelltown	2-3	1-5	2-7
Bondi Marines v Granville Chile	1-1	4-2	1-0
Concordia v Canterbury Dist	5-1	2-0	1-1
Moorebank v Rooty Hill	1-1	1-1	3-2
King Tomislav v North Ryde RSL	0-2	0-2	5-1
Baulkham Hills v Uni of NSW	0-2	3-2	1-0
Port Hacking v West United	2-4	0-0	2-1

INTER URBAN 1ST DIVISION

	1st	2nd
Hawkesbury Dist v Eastwood S/A		3-6
Nineveh Eagles v Dulwich Hill		0-5
Padstow Park v Fairfield Kiev		4-4
Pagewood Botany v Rosebery Port		1-0
Spanish Club v Sydney Uni		3-0
West St George v Chelsea		0-1

INTER URBAN 2ND DIVISION

Maroubra Utd v Macquarie Uni	2-1	1-2
Chile Sports v Greenisland	0-0	0-2
Rangers Hajduk v Trasandinos Spts	2-0	1-2
Welcome Sports v Senty Waratah	2-2	3-2
Liverpool City v Concord Juniors	0-4	2-2
Haberfield Peru v CSI Schofields	0-2	0-3

INTER URBAN 3RD DIVISION

Cyprus United v Murray Farm		not available
Abruzzi v Crescent Star	3-4	5-1
SSC Zagreb v Lansvale Utd	2-0	2-4
Castle Hill v Lithgow Workmens	3-3	1-2
Macedonia Yagoona v Petersham Lusit	3-0	2-1
Argentinian L/U v Colo Colo	2-0	2-4
Crescent Star v Lansvale Utd	6-2	5-2

INTER URBAN 4TH DIVISION

Orange Waratah v Cobroloa	6-0	2-2
Assyrian v Liverpool Oly		not available
Greystanes v Alexander	3-3	4-2
Chullora v Liverpool Oly	1-3	0-2
Lebanon v Luddenham Croatia	5-0	3-1
Hellas v Prospect United	0-3	0-0
Arncliffe RSL v Mt Pritchard	0-1	0-4

VICTORIAN TABLES

RESERVES							
St Albans	9	7	1	1	29	15	15
Maribyrnong	10	6	2	2	24	11	14
Fawkner	9	6	1	2	24	16	13
Morwell Falcons	9	4	2	3	19	11	10
Broadmeadows	9	5	0	4	21	17	10
Croydon City	9	3	4	2	17	13	10
Green Gully	10	4	2	4	16	14	10
Thomastown	9	4	2	3	12	11	10
Frankston Pines	9	4	1	4	19	25	9
Northcote City	9	2	4	3	21	21	8
Box Hill	10	2	4	4	10	16	8
Western Suburbs	10	3	1	6	27	32	7
Springvale City	9	3	1	5	13	18	7
Oakleigh	9	1	3	5	18	31	5
Caulfield City	10	2	0	8	18	37	4

FIRSTS						
Sunbury Utd	7	6	0	1	15	5 12
Bulleen	7	5	1	1	13	4 11
Essendon City	7	4	3	0	14	7 11
Altona Gate	6	4	0	2	10	6 8
Ringwood City	7	4	0	3	10	6 8
Albion Rovers	6	3	1	2	9	5 7
Nth Dandenong	7	3	1	3	8	5 7
Knox City	7	3	1	3	12	11 7
Werribee	6	2	3	1	3	2 7
Richmond	6	1	4	1	7	6 6
SM Mordialloc	6	1	2	3	6	15 4
Nunawading City	6	0	2	4	4	10 2
Doncaster Rvrs	7	1	0	6	5	20 2
Melbourne	7	0	0	7	1	21 0

RESERVES						
Doncasters Rvrs	7	4	2	1	16	8 10
Essendon City	7	4	2	1	12	6 10
Nunawading City	6	4	1	1	14	6 9
Bulleen	7	4	1	2	15	12 9
SM Mordialloc	6	3	2	1	17	7 8
Knox City	7	3	2	2	16	7 8
Altona Gate	5	3	2	0	10	4 8
Nth Dandenong	7	3	1	3	7	11 7
Ringwood City	7	3	0	4	19	16 6
Werribee	6	2	1	3	8	13 5
Albion	6	2	0	4	9	8 4
Sunbury Utd	7	1	2	4	8	19 4
Richmond	6	0	2	4	9	34 2
Melbourne	6	0	0	6	0	9

FIRSTS						
Westgate	7	5	1	1	15	10
Prahran City	7	4	2	1	22	10
Dandenong City	7	4	2	1	12	8
Mooroolbark	7	4	1	2	19	8
Clifton Hill	7	4	1	2	18	8
Sandringham	7	3	2	2	7	6
Waverley City	7	2	3	2	7	8
Nth Geelong	7	3	1	3	11	14
Doveon	7	2	2	3	9	7
Altona City	7	2	2	3	11	11
Eltham	7	2	2	3	9	13
Hamlyn Rgrs	7	1	3	3	7	14
Ringwood Utd	7	1	2	4	7	11
Mornington	7	0	0	7	2	28

RESERVES						
Clifton Hill	7	6	0	1	30	5 12
Waverley City	7	5	2	0	20	7 12
Mooroolbark	7	5	1	1	14	4 11
Eltham	6	5	0	1	19	7 10
Doveon	6	4	1	1	28	7 9
Prahran City	6	3	0	3	17	10 6
Westgate	6	2	2	2	6	6 6
Altona City	7	2	2	3	7	10 6
Nth Geelong	7	2	1	4	17	13 5
Sandringham	7	1	3	3	10	11 5
Dandenong City	6	1	2	3	3	8 4
Hamlyn Rgrs	7	0	3	4	4	15 3
Ringwood Utd	6	1	1	4	3	16 3
Mornington	7	0	0	7	3	62 0

FIRSTS						
Keilor	7	5	1	1	10	6 1
Springvale Utd	7	5	1	1	13	10
West Brunswick	7	4	1	2	12	6
Rosanna	7	3	2	2	11	9
Geelong	7	4	0	3	9	7
Clarinda	7	3	1	3	14	12
Bell Park	7	3	1	3	14	13
Yarraville	7	3	1	3	11	10
Port Melbourne	7	2	2	3	9	9
Corio/Geelong	7	2	2	3	13	16
Moorabbin City	7	2	1	4	11	11
Yallourn	7	1	3	3	7	8
F.T. Gully	7	2	0	5	9	14
Moreland Pk Rgr	7	2	0	5	11	23

RESERVES						
West Brunswick	7	6	0	1	16	9 1
Yallourn	7	5	1	1	25	5 11
Moorabbin City	7	4	3	0	26	7 11
Yarraville	7	4	1	2	17	10 9
Springvale Utd	7	4	1	2	13	14 9
Corio/Geelong	7	3	2	2	9	9 8
Clarinda	7	3	1	3	22	15 7
Rosanna	7	2	2	3	14	13 6
F.T. Gully	6	2	2	2	14	18 6
Keilor	6	1	3	2	11	15 5
Moreland Pk Rgr	7	0	3	4	9	14 3
Bell Park	7	0	3	4	4	24 3
Port Melbourne	5	0	2	3	6	13 2

FIRSTS						
Seaford Utd	7	5	2	0	15	5
Lalor Utd	7	4	2	1	6	3
Holland Park	7	4	1	2	15	6
Williamstown	7	3	3	1	12	10
Pascoe Vale	7	3	3	1	8	7
Keysborough	7	3	2	2	15	12
Coburg	7	2	3	2	10	12
Hawthorn	7	2	3	2	9	11
Karingal Utd	7	2	2	3	7	11
Prahran	7	2	2	3	10	15
Diamond Vly Utd	7	2	1	4	9	11
Boronia	7	1	2	4	7	12
East Brunswick	7	1	1	5	9	13

RESERVES	
Diamond Vly Utd	7 6 0 1 26 3
Hawthorn	7 5 1 1 19 9 1
Boronia	7 4 2 1 17 9 1
Lalor Utd	7 3 3 1 15 12
Coburg	7 4 0 3 15 11
Keysborough	6 2 3 1 13 11
Seaford Utd	7 3 1 3 14 17
Williamstown	7 2 3 2 14 17
Holland Park	6 3 0 3 16 11
Prahran	7 3 0 4 11 12
Langwarrin	6 1 2 3 7 9
Karingal Utd	6 1 1 4 7 17 3
East Brunswick	6 1 0 5 6 31

FIRSTS							
Ardeer	6	6	0	0	23	8	12
With Sunshine	7	5	1	1	13	6	11
Greensborough	7	4	2	1	15	6	10
Chelsea	7	4	1	2	15	10	9
Melton	7	4	0	3	15	12	8
Regent	7	2	3	2	9	8	7
Central City	7	3	0	4	10	10	6
Clayton	7	2	2	3	16	17	6
Ivanhoe City	7	2	2	3	8	9	6
Malvern City	7	1	4	2	7	9	6
Ballaarat	7	2	2	3	10	14	6
East Preston	6	0	4	2	6	11	4
Brighton	7	2	0	5	9	23	4
East Geelong	7	0	1	6	5	18	1

RESERVES							
Malvern City	7	6	0	1	29	9	12
Melton	7	5	1	1	19	9	11
Nth Sunshine	7	5	0	2	25	7	10
Ivanhoe City	7	5	0	2	17	6	10
Ballaarat	7	5	0	2	20	11	10
Clayton	7	4	0	3	15	10	8
Regent	7	4	0	3	16	14	8
Ardeer	6	3	1	2	14	7	7
East Preston	6	3	0	3	8	14	6
Greensborough	7	2	1	4	11	18	5
Chelsea	7	1	2	4	10	26	4
Central City	7	0	3	4	5	23	3
Brighton	7	0	2	5	5	22	2
East Geelong	7	0	0	7	9	27	0

FIRSTS						
Ascot Vale City	7	5	2	0	19	8 12
Berwick City	7	4	3	0	14	5 11
Brunswick City	7	4	2	1	16	9 10
Westmeadows	7	4	2	1	15	10 10
Cranbourne	7	4	1	2	16	8 9
Mossfield	7	4	1	2	17	12 9
Monbulk	7	4	1	2	11	7 9
Glenroy	7	3	0	4	17	12 6
Monash Uni	7	2	1	4	16	17 5
Dingley Utd	7	2	1	4	11	12 5
Sth Yarra	7	2	1	4	10	14 5
Bathman Utd	7	2	1	4	9	19 5
Forest Hill	7	1	0	6	5	20 2
Wantima	7	0	0	7	5	28 0

RESERVES						
Monash Uni	7	4	3	0	23	5 11
Monbulk	7	4	3	0	15	4 11
Berwick City	7	4	2	1	14	10 10
Ascot Vale Cy	7	3	2	2	14	11 8
Mossfield	7	3	2	2	11	9 8
Glenroy	7	3	1	3	17	10 7
Batman Utd	7	3	1	3	14	10 7
Westmeadows	6	3	1	2	11	8 7
Dingley Utd	6	3	1	2	10	9 7
Cranbourne	7	3	0	4	12	11 6
Forest Hill	7	2	1	4	11	17 5
Brunswick City	7	1	2	4	16	24 4
Wantirna	7	1	1	5	8	35 3
Sth Yarra	7	1	0	6	6	19 2

FIRSTS							
Spr'vale Condors	7	6	0	1	26	9	12
Lalor	7	6	0	1	20	8	12
Waverley Utd	7	5	1	1	19	7	11
Burwood Utd	7	5	1	1	15	8	11
St Kilda	7	3	1	3	15	12	7
Richmond Utd	7	3	1	3	15	12	7

-ACT tables

FIRST DIVISION — FIRST							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Croatia	2	2	0	0	6	2	4
Juventus	2	1	1	0	9	2	3
Concordia C'berra	2	1	1	0	7	6	3
Canberra City Oly	2	1	0	1	4	3	2
Belconnen Utd	2	1	0	1	2	2	2
Tuggeranong Utd	2	1	0	1	3	7	2
Narrabundah	2	0	0	2	4	8	0
CCAE	2	0	0	2	3	8	0

MAROON SUCCESS FROM GREG RUSSELL

AUCKLAND: Monday — Bruce Stowell's Queensland Maroons have laid claim to the title of South Pacific champions after emphatically beating four times title-holders Tahiti, 4-0 in their opening match of the Auckland FA Century Tournament.

The Maroons were devastating as they swept aside the skilful Tahitians and were instantly rated favourites to win the tournament, which also features Auckland and New Caledonia.

Queensland already are calling themselves Australia's interstate champions after beating New South Wales 1-0 at Perry Park last year and the latest win now confirms the Maroons as one of the best-performed provincial sides in Oceania.

Stowell's squad was criticised before the tour as containing too many older players, but it was the experienced members of the side who led the way against Tahiti. And the most outstanding of all was former Socceroo Steve Perry, who came into the squad after three years in the representative wilderness. Perry won the man of the match award after a sterling display at the back.

Despite turning 33 just before the tour, the Redlands player-coach showed he had

lost none of his speed, skill and positional play.

He underlined his value to the side in the 25th minute when a Tahitian forward broke away from the half-way line. Perry chased his opponent more than 40 yards before making a brilliant sliding tackle.

Stowell named a side that had two player and three positional changes to the side that beat Fiji 3-1 at Perry Park in May.

It took the new combination more than 20 minutes to settle, but from then on the Maroons improved and by late in the game they were toying with their opponents.

Former Socceroo fullback Alan Niven opened the scoring in the 21st minute when he drove home a well-executed freekick. Niven's shot was hit with such force the Tahiti keeper was powerless to stop the ball going into the net although he got both hands to it.

Despite numerous raids, Queensland did not break through again until the second half.

And it was recalled Coalstars striker Dave Wheeler who got the Maroon machine rolling again. Just four minutes after the break, a great piece of close play between Mark Brusasco, Marty Kirsopp and Wheeler allowed Wheeler to burst

through the Tahiti defence to slot his shot past the stranded keeper. Russell Stewart, who with Kirsopp provided the midfield combination Stowell had hoped for, showed all his skills to set up Queensland's third.

The former young Socceroo juggled the ball down the left side of the park and played a pinpoint pass into the middle for Brusasco to head home. Stewart was also involved in Queensland's fourth when he raced down the left again and this time squared for Wheeler to put away for his second and Queensland's fourth.

After the match Stowell could not hide his delight that the side had worked at its game and had improved throughout the 90 minutes. And he is predicting the side will get better, not only in this tournament but over the coming seasons.

"The first half was a learning process but after we got to know each other and began playing how we know we can and how I have told them to play, we went very well," Stowell said.

"It all comes down to discipline and we must have discipline whether the score is 0-0, 1-0 or 6-0. But we showed enough in this game to suggest to me that we have the players who can combine to beat anyone at this level."

QUEENSLAND 4 TAHITI 0. Scorers: Qld (A. Niven, D. Wheeler 2, M. Brusasco) (H.T. 1-0).

AUCKLAND 4 b NEW CALEDONIA 0. Scorers: Auckland (T. Oliver, G. Lightbrown, D. Witteveen, R. Herbert) (H.T. 3-0).

NORTHERN NSW

Results of Tooheys 1st Division matches played Sunday 10/5/87.

Wallsend 1 (J. Parkes) Lake Macquarie City 1 (C. Northey), Belmont Swansea United 2 (I.

Johns, P. Windsor) Cardiff 1 (T. Robb), West Wallsend 2 (D. Wilson, B. Porter) Adamstown 4 (G. McDonald, P. Ridley, J. McQuarrie, S. Ingham), Weston Workers 2 (D. King, T. Stirrat) Central Coast Association 0.

POLONIA TOO STRONG

POLONIA eased to the top of the State League with a 4-2 win over Broadmeadows who slumped to the bottom of the ladder.

Polonia totally dominated the first half with its sharp brand of one-touch football but though Bill Podlewski's Broadmeadows outfit climbed back into the game in the second-half the horse had already bolted.

For all Polonia's dominance it wasn't until the 37th minute that it opened its account when Brendan Lakic continued his scoring run receiving the ball 10 metres from goal and coolly picking his spot.

Miron Bleiberg's team continued to press forward and five minutes later Rob Nelson won the ball in the middle of the park playing a long ball through for Kees Storm who slotted it past keeper Dennis Pace.

Being 2-0 down at half-time Broadmeadows fans feared a hiding but in the second half their team was the first to score when Con Stoikos beat his man on the left wing and crossed to Renato Liberto who headed it back into the middle of the goal where Terry Nolan scored.

In the 70th minute Polonia restored its two goal lead when Kees Storm was released on the left, beat Peter Donaldson and cut back to Alex Marshall who was on his own and had plenty of time to shoot past keeper Pace.

But Broadmeadows struck back 10 minutes later when Nolan hit a ball for Liberto to run on to and hit from the edge of the area past keeper Joe Kiss to reduce the deficit to 3-2.

Only a minute later though Marshall ended any hopes Broadmeadows harboured of a

comeback when he hit a cross from Lakic first time from the edge of the box to score the goal of the game.

BROADMEADOWS: Pace, Smart, A. Clantar (inj. Mizzi 82nd), Vizzini, Donaldson, Edmondson, Kos-teas, Alcaraz (inj. Stoikos), Arico, Nolan, Liberto.

POLONIA: Kiss, Lipiarski, Smolarek, Bennett, Kotzamichalis, Flavell, R. Nelson, Czapluk, Wycisluk, Lakic, Storm.

NO LUCK IN DRAW

IN the second half of Sunday's game Croydon threw everything it had at Morwell Falcons but it still could not break the deadlock that ended in a 0-0 draw.

Graham French saw two of his headers hit the crossbar. Dave Brogan had a goal disallowed for offside.

Alex Livingstone headed a cross from Gary Cole that Falcons keeper Eacott saved brilliantly and Brogan met a ball from Jimmy Nelson which hit the knee of Eacott and went wide.

Falcons opened the game promisingly and almost scored in a bizarre incident when Stan Webster came on to the pitch after having gone off to have his eye tre-

ated following a knock.

Webster was waved back on by the referee while the ball was still in play and suddenly the ball fell to him and he raced goalwards with only the keeper to beat, but Keith Waterman blocked his attempt.

In the end though Falcons coach Dave

O'Connor was happy to come away with a point and he had Croydon's chronic inability to score to thank for the result.

"I couldn't fault any of the players today," said Croydon boss Jim Tansey.

"The boys are creating plenty of opportunities but we just don't seem to be able to get the ball in the back of the net."

Falcons have had a similar goal-scoring problem lately and O'Connor is concerned about the form of Iain Stirton.

Last year he was the league's leading scorer but this year has failed to hit top gear.

CROYDON: Waterman, M. Brown, Brack, O'Reilly, Beech, J. Nelson, Cole, Redmond, Brogan, French, Livingstone.

MORWELL FALCONS: Eacott, Colachello, Bruns, Clark, Kotis, E. Cassar, O'Callaghan, Tutill (Sostak 75th), Stirton, Webster, A. Cassar (Bezzina 80th).

WSL TABLES

1st Grade

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Putney Town	4	2	2	—	9	4	6
Blacktown	4	3	—	1	5	4	6
Pagewood	4	2	1	1	8	3	5
Epping-Eastwood	4	2	0	2	8	4	4
Parramatta City	4	1	1	2	6	5	3
Manly	4	0	0	4	1	13	0

Reserve Grade

Putney Town	4	3	1	0	12	2	7
Epping-Eastwood	4	3	0	1	8	5	6
Parramatta City	4	2	1	1	9	4	5
Pagewood	4	2	0	2	5	4	4
Manly	4	1	0	3	5	16	2
Blacktown	4	0	0	4	3	10	0

RESULTS

1st Grade: Pagewood 2 Putney 2, Epping-Eastwood 4 Manly 0, Blacktown 1 Parramatta 0. Res Grade: Pagewood 0 Putney 2, Epping-Eastwood 4 Manly 0, Blacktown 0, Parramatta 4.

Southern Div: Sunshine George Cross 4 Heidelberg 2, Brighton 3 Preston 0, Oakleigh 3 Melbourne Croatia 3, Caulfield City 4 Clarinda 2, Footscray 5 Waverley City 1.

TASMANIA

Cadbury State League Standings:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
White Eagles	6	5	1	0	26	7	11
Olympia-WPL	6	5	0	1	22	4	10
Juve-Pioneer	6	5	0	1	23	11	10
Croatia-Glen	6	4	1	1	20	8	9
Hobart-Azzurri	6	2	0	4	8	19	4
Caledonians	6	1	1	4	6	15	3
Rapid	6	0	1	5	6	23	1
Howrah	6	0	0	6	2	26	0

Details: White Eagles 4 (A. & R. Leszczynski, Stoddart, Young) Rapid 2 (Errey, Koch, pen.), Olympia-WPL 5 (Nichols, Munro, Goldsmith pen, Xanthopoulos, Morton) Juventus-Pioneer 0, Croatia-Glenorchy 4 (Bacic, Cowen, McQuade, Huigsloot) Hobart City-Azzurri 0, Caledonians 3 (Joseph, Robins, Murtagh) Howrah 0.

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WORLD SOCCER Saturday 5.30pm

Tune in each Saturday for exclusive coverage of a big international match. Plus, soccer news, highlights and scores from around the world.

BEACH FASHIONS CUP Sunday 11.30am

An hour of exciting highlights of this inaugural knock-out competition between the NSL's top teams. SBS-TV will present 8 action packed rounds, including the final.

WEST END SOCCER LEAGUE MATCH OF THE DAY

Sunday 4.30pm

Les Murray presents a complete coverage of the most important match of the day, with expert commentators Mike Hill and Johnny Warren calling all the action.

SPORT REPORT Monday 8.30pm

A comprehensive review of Sunday's West End Soccer League matches. You'll see highlights, interviews, and get the real stories behind the results from Andrew Paschalidis and Kyle Patterson.

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"GILLETTE WORLD CUP SPECIAL"

AT FIFA House in Zurich last week, the Gillette Company, official sponsor of the FIFA Mexico '86 and Italia '90 World Cup championships, announced a new television series — six half hour programmes featuring a fresh and innovative look at the 1986 Mexico World Cup.

Each programme looks at one of the six qualifying Groups and charts their progress towards the Final.

"GILLETTE WORLD CUP SPECIAL" is a continuation of the highly successful Gillette-sponsored series produced just before Mexico '86 and distributed by World Sport Television Ltd to over 40 networks worldwide.

In the first series, a panel chosen from the most distinguished players in the game — Pele, Johan Cruyff, Franz Beckenbauer, Osvaldo Ardiles, Bobby Robson and Denis Law — gave their predictions of which teams would reach the Final, and who would win. Now, the second six programmes take a look at how accurate their predictions proved to be for each Group.

Gary Lineker, the most prolific goal scorer in Mexico, is featured in each programme — he chooses the six most spectacular goals from the championship and explains his reasons why.

In each programme, the panel of experts are asked to select, in their view, the best players in the world for the World Cup "Super Team" — eleven players and a manager, chosen to represent the world's top Soccer team.

The exciting new GILLETTE WORLD CUP SPECIAL series, fast-moving and packed with the very best action from Mexico, will offer a refreshing and human approach to the 1986 World Cup, with informed and revealing comment from the best players in the world.



GARY LINEKER, Englands topscorer against Paraguay.

The Wide World of Football

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY present the best coverage of the world game as FRANK COLETTA brings you the latest news and views along with the best pics from overseas.

Dynamo Kiev have become the first Soviet side to link up with shirt sponsors. West German computer manufacturers Commodore have paid an undisclosed sum to have their name on Kiev's shirts for European matches.

SCHUMACHER SCANDAL OUTCAST!



FIFA UNDER 16

Disgraced West German goalkeeper Harald Schumacher has been snubbed by European football and is set to join Brazilian club Palmeiras.

Sacked by his club FC Cologne and told that his international career is at an end following allegations in his autobiography of drug-taking in the Bundesliga, Schumacher has had to turn to South America after talks with Belgian club Antwerp failed to produce a contract.

Clubs in Norway have agreed to do away with drawn matches during their forthcoming League season. If the scores are level after 90 minutes results will be decided by penalty shoot-outs.

ENGLISH DIVISION ONE REDUCES TO TWENTY IN 1987/88

BY MICHAEL MIKOLAJCZYK

TRADITIONALLY the FA CUP FINAL wraps up the English football season with promotion and relegation decided by merit order on the competition table.

In the coming season the first division will be a 20 team competition.

To achieve the reduction a system of play offs has been devised in conjunction with a modified promotion and relegation rule.

Those teams finishing 22nd, 21st, and 20th in div one will be automatically relegated. The top two teams from div. two will take their place leaving one position vacant. A play-off between the 19th team in div. one and the 3rd, 4th, and 5th teams in div two will decide who fills that vacancy.

Phase 1 of the playoffs will be drawn as follows: 5th team div 2 v 19th team div 1; 4th team div 2 v 3rd team div 2.

The first mentioned sides will play at home then a return fixture will be played away.

Phase II sees the winners meet each other over two legs.

Rules governing the play offs are similar to European Cup competitions where ties are decided on aggregate. If the scores are level after the second leg, extra time will be played at the end of that game and if they are still even after 120 minutes, away goals will count double. In the event that there's still no winner, a replay will be scheduled the next day. The team drawn out of a hat will play at home — extra time will be played if needed and finally penalty kicks will resolve the stalemate.

In div 2 the two bottom teams face automatic demotion to div 3 with two teams from the lower division taking their place.

The playoffs for a spot

in div 2 will be contested between the side finishing 20th in div 2 and the 3rd, 4th and 5th placegetters in div 3.

Three sides will be relegated from div 3 and three will be upgraded from div 4. A spot in div 3 will be decided between the 21st placed div 3 team and the 4th, 5th and 6th clubs from div 4.

The rules for the play off system are the same for all divisions.

The top club from the General Motors Vauxhall Conference will replace the last team in div 4, subject to that club meeting the criteria set by the League.

The play offs are set down for 10-13 May (Phase I) and 17-20 May (Phase II).

Argentina in Zurich against Italy

On Wednesday 10 June, Zurich will be the scene of an international football match between Argentina and Italy. This game between the winners of the 1986 World Cup in Mexico and the organisers of the Final Competition of the 1990 World Cup, organised by FIFA in co-operation with the Swiss Football Association (SFV), is intended as a symbolic kickoff for Italia 1990, the FIFA Organising Committee of which will be holding their first meeting on the same in Zurich.

Argentina has already confirmed that team captain Diego Maradona will be taking part.

The match will be played in the Hardturm stadium at 20.30h.

Brits best

South African Eddie Firmani, Charlton Athletic's prolific post-War striker, was the only manager to stand in the way of a clean sweep by British bosses in Kuwait. Former England Youth and Arsenal coach John Cartwright had a hat-trick of successes in charge of Sporting Club, who took the National Cup (the country's FA Cup), finished joint runners-up in the League behind Firmani's Kazma, and won the Under-20's team title. One-time Arsenal winger George Armstrong's side El Araby shared second place with Sporting Club while former West Ham winger Tony Scott led Nasser to the Second Division Championship.

Italians Atalanta have prepared for Trevor Francis' departure at the end of the season by asking Argentine club River Plate to name their price for 19-year-old striker Claudio Cannigiu.

Norman accused

Nottingham Forest's JOHNNY METGOD has joined the great NORMAN WHITESIDE debate.

I reported a couple of weeks ago that Manchester United's abrasive Irishman believes he has an unwarranted reputation as a hard-man.

But Metgod declares: "There's nothing wrong with being tough, but Norman occasionally takes things too far for no valid reason."

"This is his fifth season in the First Division and he ought to know better. He's only 21 so there's time for him to change. He must start now."

FIFA U-16 World Tournament in Canada

12 - 25 July 1987. Venues are Montreal, Saint John (New Brunswick), St. John's (Newfoundland), Toronto. Refer to the match schedule for the groupings. The Canadian Soccer Association, 333 River Road, Ottawa, Ontario K1 L8H9, Canada.

FIFA/Coca-Cola Cup, World Youth Championship in Chile

10 - 25 October 1987. Venues are Antofagasta, Concepcion, Santiago and Valparaiso. The draw for the groupings will be carried out on Friday, 25 May in Santiago.

Federación de Fútbol de Chile, Calle Callao 2988, Las Condes, Santiago de Chile, Chile.

A man who has made
a lasting impression
on sport

ADIDAS PIONEER PASSES AWAY

WITH the passing of Horst DASSLER, the sporting world has lost a remarkable personality.

The business man, Dassler, was one of those pioneers who, in an era of unprecedented change, not only guided sport but, rather, commanded it. The fact that sport has managed to keep up with overwhelming technological and economic developments of our society in the past 20 years is due also the contribution made to it by Horst Dassler.

Horst Dassler was instrumental in the commercial and professional promotion of sport. During his time, sport underwent an almost explosive expansion and diversification. Out of the once innocuous pastimes, professionalised mechanisms have developed that have made sport an integral part of the leisure industry. Sport has become a social phenomenon and an important commercial factor affecting several other economic areas. Tourism is only one example of these. The wide range of sports reflects the needs of modern society, which, to some extent, because of sport in industrialised countries has been called the "leisure society". Horst Dassler contributed to all of these developments. The three stripes that adorn ADIDAS products have become an emblem to everybody in the same way as Coca-Cola, which is not just a drink by an institution.

A lover of sport has to be a friend of football. Inspired by his friend of many years, Joao Havelange, it was Horst Dassler who helped FIFA to open up the dialogue between north and south in football, thus giving the Third World a welcome opportunity to distinguish itself internationally. Football was Horst Dassler's most gratifying sphere of activity and his work with FIFA one of the pillars of his rise in business. Horst Dassler contributed much to sport and sport reciprocated. Dassler was a prophet, a man who helped to channel developments by predicting the future correctly. That is why he went for football, which is not just a sport but also a social phenomenon.

THE KIWI COLUMN JACQUES BOUNCES BACK

JACQUES VERCAUTEREN - coach of New Zealand's 1986 title winners one minute, sacked the next...

A year ago Vercauteren was leading Mount Wellington to the national league title but before he had time to swallow the champagne the club showed its appreciation by showing him the door!

Nowdays he can be found at the dark end of the training ground putting DB Spats Wellington's reserves through their paces.

To some it would seem like a backward step. Not, however, to Vercauteren.

"A coach has to be prepared to go where the work is. That's an accepted part of football. The fact is that when I needed a team, the Auckland national league clubs already had coaches," said the Hutt Valley High School language teacher.

"So when Wellington

asked me to work with Barrie Truman I was happy to accept. Coaching at different levels is all part of a coach's education so I looked at taking a Hertz Central League team as a further learning experience. Besides, coaching youngsters is more of a challenge in some ways, because you are responsible for the players' education, whereas coaching 30 year olds who aren't going to get any better is more a job of man management and tactical expertise. This country needs decent coaches working outside of the National League because players do not develop in New Zealand as they should."

When Vercauteren talks of himself as still learning, one forgets that his record and experience mark him as among the best coaches in New

Zealand.

Perhaps an even better indication of his skill was the third and second placings he achieved with more limited resources at Landbase Papatoetoe.

Clearly, then, the Central League players of Wellington are fortunate to have him at their helm, as do the first team on match days and when training schedules permit.

What it boils down to is

that Vercauteren is a disciple of the continental way of football, while New Zealand is a country bred on the blood and thunder of the English game.

He spends many hours studying video tapes of games played in Europe. Hence his sides tend to play a possession game, often with a spare man at the back, a style that has proven essential in modern Soccer.

DUTCH CUT
HOLLAND are following the lead of the English League and cutting the number of clubs in its top division, the Ere-Divisie, from 18 to 16.
But instead of introducing a play-off system like the Football League, three clubs will go down over the next two seasons, being replaced by two each time.



Thanks for the memory... legendary striker Ian Rush says goodbye to Liverpool with his 39th goal of the season during the 3-3 draw with Chelsea at Stamford Bridge



ENGLISH Div 2: West Bromwich 1 Portsmouth 0.
Div 4: Halifax 2 Colchester 0.
Northampton 2, Crewe 1, Rochdale 2 Swansea 0.

ITALIAN CUP: Q-finals, 1st leg: Cagliari 1 Juventus 1, Napoli 3 Bologna 0, Cremonese 1 Inter Milan 1, Atalanta 1 Parma 0.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP, qualifying matches:
Group 1: Romania 3 Spain 1, Austria 1 Albania 0.

STANDINGS
Romania 4 3 0 1 12 3 6
Spain 4 3 0 1 7 6 6
Austria 4 2 0 2 6 7 4
Albania 4 0 0 4 2 11 0

Group 3: Soviet Union 2 East Germany 0, France 2 Iceland 0.
USSR 4 3 1 0 9 1 7
E Germany 4 1 2 1 2 2 4
France 4 1 2 1 2 2 4
Iceland 4 0 2 2 1 5 2
Norway 2 0 1 1 0 4 1

Group 4: Turkey 0 England 0.
England 4 3 1 0 7 0 7
Yugoslavia 2 1 0 1 4 2 2
Turkey 2 0 2 1 0 4 2
N Ireland 3 0 1 2 0 5 1

Group 5: Greece 1 Poland 0, Netherlands 2 Hungary 0.
Greece 6 4 1 1 12 7 9
Netherlands 5 3 2 0 6 1 8
Poland 4 1 2 1 2 2 4
Hungary 4 1 0 3 2 2 2
Cyprus 5 0 1 4 3 10 1

Group 6: Finland 0 Denmark 1.
Denmark 3 2 1 0 2 0 5
Czech 2 1 1 0 5 1 3
Czech 2 1 1 0 5 1 3
Finland 5 0 1 4 3 10 1

Group 7: Ireland 0 Belgium 0.
Belgium 5 2 3 0 13 4 7

ENGLISH Div 2: Hull 1 Brighton 0, Stoke 0 Oldham 2, Sunderland 2 Bradford 3.
Div 3: Blackpool 1 Doncaster 1, Bristol City 0 Brentford 2, Bristol Rovers 3 Chester 2, Fulham 2, Wigan 2, Mansfield 1, Darlington 0, Middlesbrough 3, Gillingham 0, Notts County 2, Swindon 3, Walsall 5, Port Vale 2.
Div 4: Preston 2 Tranmere 0, Scunthorpe 2 Burnley 1, Torquay 1 Cardiff 0.

SCOTTISH PREM DIV: Dundee United 2 Hamilton 1.

EUROPEAN UNDER 21 C'Ship, qualifying round: Group One: Albania 1 Austria 1.

STANDINGS
Romania 3 2 0 1 4 3 4
Spain 3 1 2 0 4 2 1
Austria 4 1 2 1 3 3 4
Albania 4 0 2 2 3 5 2

Group Three: Soviet Union 2 East Germany 1.
USSR 3 2 0 1 4 3 4
E Germany 3 1 1 1 2 2 3
France 2 1 0 1 2 2 2
Norway 2 0 1 1 0 1 1

Group Four: Turkey 0 England 0.
Yugoslavia 2 1 1 0 4 1 3
Poland 2 0 1 0 1 1 2
Turkey 2 0 1 1 0 3 1

Group Five: Greece 2 Poland 0.
Greece 5 4 0 1 13 3 8
Poland 3 2 0 1 4 2 4
Cyprus 3 1 0 3 3 13 2
Hungary 2 0 0 2 2 4 0

Group Six: Finland 0 Denmark 1.
Denmark 3 2 1 0 2 0 5
Czech 2 1 1 0 5 1 3
Czech 2 1 1 0 5 1 3
Finland 5 0 1 4 3 10 1

Group 7: Ireland 0 Belgium 0.
Belgium 5 2 3 0 13 4 7

Czech 3 2 1 0 7 1 5
Denmark 3 2 1 0 6 2 5
Finland 4 1 0 3 3 7 2
Iceland 2 0 2 2 0 6 0

Group Seven: Ireland 1 Belgium 1.
Scotland 3 2 1 0 6 2 5
Belgium 4 0 2 2 3 7 2

English Div 1: Arsenal 1 Norwich 2, Charlton 2, Queen's Park Rangers 1, Chelsea 3, Liverpool 3, Coventry 1, Southampton 1, Everton 3, Luton 1, Manchester United 3, Aston Villa 1, Nottingham Forest 2, Newcastle 1, Oxford 0, Leicester 0, Sheffield Wednesday 0, Wimbledon 2, Watford 1, Tottenham 0, West Ham 2, Manchester City 0.

Div 2: Birmingham 0 Shrewsbury 2, Brighton 0, Leeds 1, Derby 4, Plymouth 2, Huddersfield 3, Millwall 0, Hull 3, Crystal Palace 0, Ipswich 1, Reading 1, Oldham 3, Blackburn 0, Portsmouth 0, Sheffield United 1, Sunderland 2, Barnsley 3, West Bromwich 2, Bradford 2.

Div 3: Bournemouth 2 Rotherham 0, Brentford 2, Wigan 3, Bristol City 1, Swindon 1, Bury 4, Blackpool 1, Carlisle 3, Chesterfield 0, Chester 1, Port Vale 2, Darlington 1, Walsall 3, Doncaster 0, Middlesbrough 2, Gillingham 1, Bolton 0, Mansfield 1, Fulham 1, Newport 0, Bristol Rovers 1, York 1, Notts County 1.

Div 4: Aldershot 1 Cardiff 2, Hereford 1, Halifax 1, Peterborough 0, Preston 0, Colchester 0, Scunthorpe 2, Rochdale 0, Swansea 2, Lincoln 0, Torquay 2, Crewe 2, Wolverhampton 4, Hartlepool 1, Wrexham 1, Northampton 3.

Scottish Premier: Aberdeen 3

Falkirk 1, Clydebank 1, Hibernian 2, Dundee 7, Hamilton 3, Hearts 1, Celtic 0, Motherwell 1, Dundee United 0, Rangers 1, St Mirren 0.

Div 1: Airdrieonians 1, Morton 0, Clyde 2, Brechin 1, Dumbarton 3, Queen of South 0, Forfar 1, East Fife 4, Kilmarnock 1, Partick 0, Montrose 1, Dunfermline 0.

Div 2: Albion 0 Cowdenbeath 1, Alloa 0, Meadowbank 1, Ayr 2, Stirling 3, East Stirling 2, Queen's Park 2, Stenhousemuir 3, Berwick 1, Stranraer 1, Raith 4.

ENGLISH DIVISION ONE
P W D L F A Pts
Everton 41 25 8 8 75 31 83
Liverpool 42 23 8 11 72 42 77
Tottenham 41 21 8 12 68 42 71
Arsenal 42 20 10 12 58 35 70
Norwich 42 17 17 8 53 51 68
Wimbledon 42 19 9 14 57 50 66
Luton 42 18 12 12 47 45 66
Notts Fst 42 18 11 13 64 51 65

Watford 42 18 9 15 67 54 63
Derby 42 17 12 13 50 45 63
Oxford 42 14 14 14 52 45 56
Sheff Wed 42 14 10 18 69 68 52
Sheff Utd 42 13 13 16 58 59 52
Chelsea 42 13 13 16 53 64 52
West Ham 42 13 11 16 48 64 50
Newcastle 42 12 11 19 47 65 47
Oxford 42 11 13 18 49 69 46
Clacton 42 11 11 20 45 55 44
Leicester 42 11 9 22 54 76 42
Mansfield 42 15 19 36 57 39
Aston Villa 42 8 12 22 45 79 36

Div 2: Two
Derby 42 25 9 8 64 38 84
Preston 42 23 9 10 53 28 78
Oldham 42 22 9 11 65 44 75
Leeds 42 19 11 12 58 44 68
Ipswich 42 17 13 12 59 43 64
Cryst Pal 42 19 5 18 51 53 62
Plymouth 42 16 13 13 62 57 61
Stoke 42 16 10 16 63 53 58
Sheff Utd 42 15 13 14 50 49 58
Bradford 42 15 10 17 62 62 55
Barnsley 42 14 13 15 49 52 55
Blackburn 42 15 10 17 45 55 55

Reading 42 14 11 17 52 59 53
Hull 42 13 14 15 41 55 53
W.B.A. 42 12 17 51 49 51
Millwall 42 14 9 19 39 45 51
Huddersfield 42 12 17 54 61 51
Shrewsbury 42 15 6 21 41 53 51
Birmingham 42 11 17 14 47 59 50
Sunderland 42 12 12 18 49 59 48
Grimsby 42 10 14 18 39 59 44
Brighton 42 9 12 21 37 54 39

Div 3: Bournemouth 46 29 10 7 76 40 97
Middlesbrough 46 28 10 8 67 30 94
Swindon 46 25 12 9 77 47 87
Wigan 46 25 10 11 83 60 85
Gillingham 46 23 9 14 65 48 78
Bristol City 46 21 14 11 63 36 77
Notts City 46 21 13 12 77 56 76
Walsall 46 22 9 15 80 75 73
Blackpool 46 16 16 14 74 59 64
Mansfield 46 15 16 15 52 55 61
Brentford 46 15 15 16 64 56 60
Port Vale 46 15 12 19 76 70 57
Doncaster 46 14 15 17 56 62 57
Rotherham 46 15 12 19 48 57 57
Chester 46 13 17 16 61 59 56
Bury 46 14 13 19 54 60 55
Chertham 46 13 15 18 56 69 54
Fulham 46 12 17 17 59 77 53
Bristol Rov 46 13 12 17 56 77 51
York 46 12 13 21 55 79 49
Bolton 46 10 15 21 46 58 45
Carlisle 46 10 8 28 39 78 38
Darlington 46 7 16 23 45 77 37
Newport 46 8 13 25 49 86 37

Div 4: Northampton 46 30 9 7 103 53 99
Preston 46 26 12 8 72 47 90

Southend 46 25 5 16 68 55 80
Wolves 46 24 7 15 69 50 79
Colchester 46 21 7 18 64 56 70
Aldershot 46 20 10 16 64 57 70
Orient 46 20 9 17 64 61 69
Scunthorpe 46 18 12 16 73 57 66
Wrexham 46 15 20 11 70 51 65
Peterborough 46 17 14 15 57 50 65
Cambridge 46 17 11 18 60 62 62
Swansea 46 17 11 18 56 61 62
Cardiff 46 15 16 15 48 50 61
Exeter 46 11 23 12 53 49 56
Halifax 46 15 10 21 59 74 55
Hereford 46 14 11 21 60 61 53

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION
Rangers 44 31 7 6 85 23 69
Celtic 44 27 9 8 90 41 63
Dundee Utd 43 24 11 8 65 35 59
Aberdeen 44 21 16 7 63 29 58
Hearts 43 21 13 9 63 42 55
Dundee 44 18 12 14 74 57 48
St Mirren 44 12 20 36 51 36
Motherwell 44 11 21 21 43 64 34
Hibernian 44 10 13 21 44 70 33
Falkirk 44 8 10 26 31 70 26
Clydebank 44 6 12 26 35 93 24
Hamilton 44 6 9 29 39 93 21

Div 2: Albion 44 23 9 11 88 56 57
Morton 44 23 10 11 81 61 56
Dunfermline 44 23 7 14 67 52 53
Dumbarton 44 23 8 11 68 55 51
East Fife 44 21 13 8 68 55 51
Airdrie 44 20 11 13 58 46 51
Kilmarnock 44 17 11 16 62 53 45
Forfar 44 14 15 15 61 63 43
Partick 44 12 15 17 49 54 39
Clyde 44 11 16 17 48 56 38
Q.O.'s 44 11 21 21 50 71 34
Brechin 44 11 10 23 44 72 32
Montrose 44 9 11 24 37 74 29

Div 3: Meadowbank 39 23 9 7 69 38 55
Dunfermline 39 16 20 3 73 44 52
Raith 39 16 20 3 73 44 52
Stirling 39 20 12 7 55 33 52
Ayr 39 22 8 9 70 49 52
St Johnst 39 16 13 10 59 49 45
Alloa 39 17 15 7 48 50 41
Cowdenbath 39 16 15 8 59 50 40
Albion 39 15 9 15 48 51 39
Queens Pk 39 9 19 11 48 49 37
Stranraer 39 9 11 19 41 59 29
Aberbroath 39 10 9 20 37 58 29
Stenhousemuir 39 10 9 20 37 58 29
Elgin 39 6 11 22 33 56 23
Berwick 39 8 7 24 40 69 23

Div 4: Queen's Park Rangers 1, Arsenal 4, Tottenham 4, Manchester United 0, Aston Villa 2, Sheffield Wednesday 1, Newcastle 1, Charlton 3, Middlesbrough 1, Nottingham Forest 0.

Div 2: Crystal Palace 1, Portsmouth 0.

Div 3: Fulham 1, Bournemouth 3.

Div 4: Colchester 0, Aldershot 1, Exeter 1, Wolverhampton 3.

Div 1: Queen's Park Rangers 1, Arsenal 4, Tottenham 4, Manchester United 0, Aston Villa 2, Sheffield Wednesday 1, Newcastle 1, Charlton 3, Middlesbrough 1, Nottingham Forest 0.

NAPOLI'S TITLE

NAPOLI yesterday celebrated their first ever win of the Italian championship after it drew 1-1 at home with relegation-threatened Fiorentina.

The San Paolo stadium in Naples erupted when the 80,000 capacity crowd learned that Inter Milan had faltered in their attempt to take both points against Ascoli and therefore left the Neapolitans with an unassailable 3-point lead at the top.

In other news involving Inter; they have decided not to pursue the signature of Real Madrid's Mexican striker Hugo Sanchez.

Napoli's ace Diego Maradona had more reason to celebrate after his brother Hugo was signed by the club on Thursday night for \$700,000.

The champions now have three foreigners on their books, the two Maradona's and Brazilian star Careca.

Hugo will spend next season on loan to a lower division club.

Meanwhile Juventus is still reeling from their shock loss in the Italian FA Cup to Cagliari midweek.

Former Brazilian World Cup striker Serginho now 33, has joined Portuguese club Funchal.

Racing Club of Paris are trying to tempt Argentinian Claudio Borghi to France. The 22-year-old Argentinian striker is also being watched by several Italian clubs.

UEFA Cup Final...

THE SWEDES TAKE A SLENDER LEAD

A 38th minute headed goal by STEFAN PETTERSON gave IFK Gothenburg a 1-0 win over Scotland's Dundee United in the first leg of the UEFA Cup Final in Gothenburg.

The win was the Swedes' 24th unbeaten match in the same competition. The last time they lost a match was in 1980 to the tune of 5-1 at the hands of Dutch club Twente Enschede.

They won the event back in 1982, beating West Germany's Hamburg.

Dundee however are confident of scoring the necessary goals in the return leg on May 20.

This match is scheduled just four days after the club appears in the Scottish FA Cup Final against St Mirren.

For United, defender David Narey was magnificent in the heart of defence in the away game.

Crewe 46 13 14 19 70 72 53
Hartlepool 46 11 18 17 44 65 51
Stockport 46 13 12 21 40 69 50
Tranmere 46 11 17 18 54 72 50
Rochdale 46 11 17 18 54 73 50
Burnley 46 12 13 21 53 74 49
Torquay 46 10 18 18 56 72 48
Lincoln 46 12 12 22 45 65 48

Hamburg SV 4 Schalke 0.

EAST GERMAN Div 1: Stahl Riesa 3 Stahl Brandenburg 2, Dynamo Dresden 5 Union Berlin 0, Rot-Weiss Erfurt 1 Wismut Aue 1, Karl-Marx-Stadt 0 Carl Zeiss Jena 0, Energie Cottbus 0 Fortschritt Bismarckswerda 0, Dynamo Berlin 2 Magdeburg 1, Vorwarts Frankfurt 0 Lokomotive Leipzig 0.

FRENCH Div 1: Marseille 3 Nancy 2, Laval 1, Bordeaux 2, Toulouse 1, Paris Saint-Germain 1, Auxerre 1, Rennes 0, Monaco 2.

Le Havre 1, Metz 4, Toulon 0, Brez 2, Nantes 1, Lens 0, Sochaux 0, Saint-Etienne 1, Nice 0, Racing Club Paris 1 Lille 0.

SPANISH Div 1: Barcelona 2 Sporting Gijon 0, Las Palmas 1, Sabadell 1.

HUNGARIAN Div 1: Békescsaba 3 Ujpest Dozsa 1, Honved 3, Dunaujvaros 1, Siofok 2, MTK VM 2, Ferencváros 1, Haladás 1, Vasas 1, Debrecen 1, Raba Eto 2, Eger 1, Videoton 1, Pecs 0, Zalaegerszeg 1, Tatabánya 0.

YUGOSLAV Div 1: Hajduk Split 1, Rijeka 1, after 90 minutes, (Hajduk won 10-9 on a penalty shoot-out.)

AUSTRIAN Div 1: Vienna Sportclub 1, Rapid 1, Admira Wacker 2, VOEST Linz 2, LASK Linz 1, FC Tirol 0, Austria Vienna 1, Sturm Graz 1.

OLYMPIC QUALIFYING MATCH: In Sofia, Bulgaria: Bulgaria 0 Soviet Union 1.

BELGIAN Div 1: FC Malines 2, Seraing 1, Waregem 1, Berchem 0, FC Liege 2, Beveren 1, Beerschot 1, Charleroi 1.

WEST END NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE

WEST
END

WEEKEND FIXTURES

WEST
END

ROUND 8

SUNDAY 2.30PM

MIDDLE PARK

STH MELBOURNE v ADELAIDE CITY

CONNOR RESERVE

PRESTON MAK v HEIDELBERG UTD

CHAPLIN RESERVE

SUNSHINE G.C. v APIA

ST GEORGE STADIUM

SYDNEY OLYMPIC v MARCONI

CROATIAN SPORTS CENTRE

SYDNEY CROATIA v BRUNSWICK

OLYMPIC PARK

MELB CROATIA v FOOTSCRAY

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